

REPORT
ON THE
REVISED SETTLEMENT
OF THE
SHAHPOOR DISTRICT

IN THE
RAWULPINDER DIVISION

EFFECTED BY

MR. G. OUSELEY, B. C. S.,

AND

CAPTAIN W. G. DAVIES, B. S. C.

1866.

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ERRATA.

Page VIII, "Table of Contents"—13th line *for* "Hubuns Lal" *read* "Hurbuns Lal."

„ 11, line 15 (from bottom) *for* "caracature" *read* "caricature."

„ 13 „ 5 ditto *for* "great" *read* "greater."

„ 27 „ 11 (from top) *for* "poplotion" *read* "population."

„ 29 „ 2 ditto *for* "immigation" *read* "immigration."

„ 39 „ 5 (from bottom) *for* "new" *read* "newly."

„ 42 „ 1 (from top) *dele* second "having."

„ 74 „ 15 ditto *for* "detemined" *read* "determined."

„ 108 „ 9 (from bottom of *text*) *for* "were" *read* "was."

„ „ „ 4 *of note for* "latter" *read* "later."

„ 120 „ 19 (from bottom) *for* "is" *read* "are."

„ 124 „ 7 (from top) *for* "rates" *read* "rate."

„ „ „ 12 (from bottom) *for* "had" *read* "has."

„ 128 „ 23 (from top) *for* "officers" *read* "officer."

Appendix V line 7 (from bottom) *for* "Goonjral" *read* "Goonjial."

„ X under column of "Total of Judicial measurement and miscellaneous cases" opposite name of Captain Davies, *for* "171" *read* "1071."

Page xi, of Commissioner's review, line 2 (from top) *for* "same" *read* "some."

„ xvii, Colonel Lake's memo., lines 19 and 20 (from bottom), *for* "Abâd Kôrân or Bunjur Shijâfan" *read* "Abâd-Kârân or Bunjur Shigâfan."

„ „ Ditto, line 9 ditto, *for* "Zijl Moosa" *read* "Zyl Moosa."

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सत्यमेव जयते

REPORT

ON THE

REVISED SETTLEMENT

OF THE

SHAHPoor DISTRICT.

INTRODUCTION.

1. Probably there is no district in the Punjab, the territorial limits and constitution of which have undergone so many changes as that of Shahpoo; and as it has been in a great measure due to these changes that the Settlement of the district has been protracted over so long a period, and has passed through so many hands, and as the information may be of use for future reference, I shall not be doing wrong perhaps, if, by way of introduction to this report, I note down the more important of these alterations.

Status at
annexation.

2. At annexation, the whole of the Chuj Doab, from the boundary of the Jummoo territory to the junction of the rivers Jhelum and Chenab, was placed under the charge of Mr. E. C. Bayley, and administered by him as one district.

First forma-
tion of the
District.

3. But the charge was found too extensive. Accordingly, in June of the same year (1849), this tract of country was divided and formed into the two districts of Goojrat and Shahpoo; the latter comprising the four Kardarships of Mianee, Bhera, Saiwal and Qadirpoo, to which were added the three lowest zails of the Kardarship of Qadirabad, viz: Midh, Ahmdanugger, and Kaloowal on the Chenab.

Changes be-
come neces-
sary.

4. As time wore on, however, and our acquaintance with the newly conquered country became closer, defects were discovered in the first apportionments of territory into circles of administration, and in respect to Shahpoo and the surrounding districts speedily led to changes.

The Qadir-
poo Talseel
transferred to
Jhung.

5. The first took place in 1851, when the whole Tahseel of Qadirpoo was transferred to Jhung, on the ground that the Talooquas of which it was composed had always been subordinate to that place, that it was more conveniently situated with respect to the head-quarters of that district, and that the inhabitants were chiefly Syâls, closely connected with others of the same tribe in Jhung.

Introduction.

6. For somewhat similar reasons, the Talooqua of Khoshab was made over to Shahpoor from Leia, from the commencement of the financial year 1853-54, and the following year saw the transfer back to this district of the Ferooka Illaquá.

Khoshab
and Feroka
are received.

7. The district now consisted of the three Tahseels of Bhera, Saiwâl, and Kalowâl, of which all but the narrow strip made up of the Trans-Jhelum Pergunnahs of Khoshab, Girôt and Jowra, attached to the Saiwâl Tahseel, were situated between that river and the Chenab; and it was of the district so constituted that Mr. Ouseley made the Settlement.*

Constitution
of the district
in 1853-54.

8. Before, however, the Settlement could be completed, further additions were made to the district. Early in the year 1857, as the Chief Commissioner was marching across the Sind Saugor Doâb, the leading men of Mitha Tiwana came to him in a body praying that the Talooqua might be transferred to Shahpoor; urging, as their reason for desiring the change, the great distance from the headquarters of their own district (Leia), and the comparative proximity of Shahpoor. The application was favorably entertained, and the transfer took place from the commencement of that financial year.

Mitha Ti-
wana received
from Leia.

9. A still more important revision of territorial jurisdictions was made during this year. To use the words of Mr. Thornton, then Commissioner of the Division, a difficulty had always been experienced in providing for the effectual administration of that portion of the Sind Saugor Doab which lay within a radius of fifty miles from Kalabagh. Circumstances originally led to the selection of Rawulpindec, Jhelum, and Leia as sites for stations, and between these places the intervening territory was parcelled out in 1848 as best it might be; but soon it became apparent that they were far too remotely situated to allow of the exercise from them of an efficient control over this tract; and a proposition to create a fourth district having been negatived, on the score of expense, a committee, composed of the Commissioner Mr. Thornton, Major Taylor, Messrs. Ouseley and Brandreth, met to consider the best way of surmounting the difficulty. The result, as regards this district, was the transfer to it from Jhelum of the following Talooquas and villages:—

Further
changes.

* A map exhibiting the limits of the district as settled by Mr. Ouseley, with the then existing fiscal divisions, forms one of the appendices to this report.

Introduction.

<i>In the Salt Range.</i>	{	The whole of Talooqua Soon,	19 villages.
		" " of " Khubbukkee,	6 "
		Part of " Noorpoor Sehti,	4 "
<i>North of ditto.</i>	{	" of " Jubbee,	8 "
		The whole of " Myâl,	13 "
		Part of " Pukkhur,	4 "
<i>South of ditto.</i>	{	The whole of " Kutha,	5 "
		Part of " Ahmedabad,	6 "

In all sixty-five villages, paying a revenue of nearly a lac of rupees.

A fourth Tahseel created. 10. These extensive additions to the area of the District Trans-Jhelum having rendered the creation of a fourth Tahseel on that side of the river absolutely necessary, the recently transferred tracts were formed into a new fiscal division, which received the name of the Jaba Tahseel, from the small village of that name in the Salt Range, where the head quarters were established.

The Kaloowal Tahseel broken up. 11. From this time the limits of the district remained unaltered till the year 1861, when the revision of establishments led to the absorption of the Kaloowal Tahseel, and the distribution of its villages between the Bhera and Chineôt Tahseels; the latter a Sub-Collectorate of the Jhung District.

Final changes. 12. The last and most important changes I have to record were carried out in 1862, when the Talooqua of Noorpoor, in the Thull, was received from Bunnoo; the Pukkhur Talooqua, extending from Sukeysur to Nikkee, was cut off and attached to the Mianwalee Tahseel of that district, and the remainder of the Jaba Tahseel lying north of the Salt Range was transferred to Jhelum.

Interior Sub-Divisions remodelled. 13. These interchanges of territory between Shahpoor and the surrounding districts necessitated a complete remodelling of the interior fiscal divisions, which was effected by forming the whole of the country still attached to the district, Trans-Jhelum, into one Tahseel, the head quarters being moved to Khoshab; and by the transfer from the Bhera to the Saiwâl Tahseel of an equivalent for the villages which had been added to the former on the breaking up of the Kaloowal Tahseel, as described above; at the same time, as Saiwâl was now no longer central, the head quarters of that Tahseel were removed to the sudder station.

Introduction.

14. Having thus passed in rapid review the chief alterations by which the district has acquired its present shape and dimensions, it is time to turn to the more immediate subject of this report, viz : (I) a description of the tract of country the revenue settlement of which has undergone revision ; and, (II) a detailed account of the manner in which that revision has been effected, involving the adjustment of the Government demand an account of land revenue, and grazing tax ; the adjudication of all disputes connected with the soil or its produce ; and, lastly, the formation of a complete record of all such rights and interests, the existence of which was either admitted by the parties concerned, or judicially established during the progress of the Settlement.

The main body of the report, the subjects it will embrace.



नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

PART I.

DESCRIPTIVE, STATISTICAL, AND HISTORICAL.

Boundaries. 1. The river Jhelum divides the Shahpore district into two almost equal portions, of which the southern half is the richest and most thickly populated; along the north lie the Tallagung and Pind Dadun Khan Tahseels of the Jhelum District. The Goojrat and Goojranwala districts with the Chenab river form its eastern boundary. Jhung adjoins it on the south; and, on the west and north-west, the district is continuous with those of Dera Ismail Khan and Bunnoo.

Area. 2. The area contained within these limits, extending from Lat. $31^{\circ} 31'$ to Lat. $32^{\circ} 42'$ and Long. $71^{\circ} 35'$ to Long. $73^{\circ} 25'$, amounts, according to the calculations of the Revenue Survey, to 4,682 square miles, of which 530 square miles are cultivated, 2,210 square miles are culturable, and the rest barren waste—including hill slopes, the beds of rivers, streams, &c.

The greater part waste. 3. Thus, it will be seen, that of this vast tract no less than 89 per cent is in a state of nature, but it may confidently be stated, that the want of the means of irrigation is the sole obstacle in the way of its gradual reclamation from this state; for, if we except the "Thull" of the Sind Saugor Doab, there is little land in the district that would not amply repay the labor of the husbandman, could he but ensure a regular supply of water at a moderate cost,* and this is especially true of the Bar, the soil of which, as a rule, is exceedingly fertile. As it is, however, cultivation in the southern half of the district is for the most part confined to a strip of land, varying from three to fifteen miles, along the banks of both rivers.

Physical features of southern half of the district. 4. At first sight it would seem that there is little to describe in this part of the district, so much of sameness is there in the general aspect of the country, but closer observation reveals features worth noting down. First, there is the general slope upwards from the low cultivated lands to the high and dry expanse of the Bar. This ascent, though of course common to both sides of the Doab, is far from uniform. In places it is so gradual as to be almost imperceptible, the fact revealing itself to the traveller inland only by the increase of waste and jungle, and the decrease

* If any evidence of the truth of this statement be required, it will be found in the marked success with which large tracts of waste land have been brought under the plough during the last five years by means of inundation canals.

of life and cultivation. In others, the transition is so abrupt as to be almost startling. The latter is the case on the Jhelum, at intervals, from the boundary of Goojrat westward to Shalpoor; but after leaving this point, a marked change takes place, the belt of cultivation rapidly increasing, from three or four miles, the average width hitherto, to two or three times as much by the time the southern boundary of the district is reached. Again, on the side of the Chenab, the rise in the surface level is more gradual than on that of the Jhelum, and, as a consequence, cultivation extends further inland along the former river. The people account for this, by affirming that the river itself, at no very remote period, flowed considerably to the west of its present course; and the explanation is probably correct, as the remains, of what appears to have been the former bed of the stream,* or at least of a very important branch, are still plainly visible, winding along at distances varying from six to ten miles, almost parallel to the present course of the river. It may also be worth noting, that, on the Jhelum side, the otherwise continuous rise of the land is interrupted in the most capricious manner by a series of abrupt depressions. These are met with at intervals of two or three miles, and extend in places to distances of not less than fifteen miles from the present position of the river, of which they also were probably at one time branches. From these and other indications there is reason to believe, that both these rivers have been gradually receding from their original positions, the one to the east, the other to the west.

5. The zones of cultivation, on both sides of this Doab, are divided by the people into the "Hethar" and the "Nukka." The former is the alluvial tract immediately bordering on the rivers. It contains the finest villages, almost every acre of it is under cultivation during the Rubbee harvest, and little or no artificial irrigation is required to bring its luxuriant crops to maturity. The latter is the strip of country lying between the "Hethar" and the "Bar," beyond the fertilizing influence of the inundations of the river, yet not so far as to render artificial irrigation unprofitable. Tillage in this tract, may be said to be entirely dependent on wells, water is found at distances varying from 35 to 50 feet from the surface, and both spring and autumn crops are grown. Villages, as might be expected, are fewer, smaller, and, as a rule, not in such

Cultivated
portion divided
into the
"Hethar" and
"Nukka."

* Known by the name "Booddhee nai" or old stream; the Lahore road crosses it between Bhagtanwala and Lukseen.

Part I]

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

flourishing condition as those in the more favored tracts bordering on the rivers.

The "Bar."

6. The space intervening between these belts of cultivation, is occupied by an expanse of jungle known by the generic title of the *Bar*. No lengthened description of this inhospitable region is required, as, in its principle features, it closely resembles the allied tracts in the Rechna and Barea Doabs. As before stated, the soil is good, but water is so far from the surface,* that irrigation from wells would be too expensive for adoption were even the water sweet; as a rule however, this is not the case, and the utmost that is ever attempted in the way of tillage, is the raising of an occasional rain crop in hollows, which, from receiving the surface drainage, are, in favorable seasons, kept sufficiently moist to allow of the ripening of the crops. But the main use to which the Bar is put, is as a pasture ground for cattle, immense herds of which are to be found roaming at will through these prairie jungles, and in ordinary seasons, finding ample sustenance in the rich crops of grass which spring up after rain. Population is scanty and villages here few, and separated from each other by great distances.

Character
of vegetation
south of the
Jhelum.

7. In a region so generally arid as the one I am describing, tree-vegetation is as a matter of course very limited, and such as is to be met with is confined to the more hardy varieties, those which require comparatively little moisture for their spontaneous growth. Accordingly, we find that the only trees indigenous to this district are the "Keekur" (*Acacia Arabica*), the "Ber" (*Zyzyphus Jujuba*), and the "Furrash" (*Tamarix Indica*) in the low lands; and in the Bar, the "Kureel" or Wild Caper, (*Cupparis Aphylla*), the Jund, (*Prosopis Spicigera*) and the "Peeloo" (*Salvadora Oleoides*), these latter form a dense jungle in which the "Peeloo" largely predominates. In addition to the foregoing, in favorable situations near the rivers and by the sides of wells, may be found specimens of the Sheeshum, (*Dalbergia Sissoo*), Sirus, (*Acacia Sirus*) and other kinds, but they are nowhere to be seen in any numbers, and the probability is, that they are not of natural growth. Much has been done, since our occupation of the country, to promote the growth of useful trees, and every day the results are becoming more apparent. No measure with this object has met with so much success as one initiated by Mr. Thornton, by which each owner of a well is bound, under penalties, to plant with cuttings of valuable trees, the ducts used for distributing water to his fields.

* From 60 to 75 feet.

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

[Part I

In the Midh and Moosa Choocha Talooquas especially, thousands of fine Sheeshum trees have been produced by these means.

8. I now pass on to the northern half, by far the most interesting portion of the district, containing as it does such varieties of scenery and climate, such contrasts of soil, vegetation, and natural capabilities.

The tract north of the Jhelum.

9. The low lands along the right bank of the Jhelum, have little to distinguish them from the corresponding tract on the opposite bank of the river, but on leaving these, and moving inland, all resemblance to the country south of the river ceases. Looking to the north, a hard level plain, in places impregnated with salt, and throughout almost devoid of vegetation, occupies the foreground; beyond it, extends a zone of a few miles of cultivation, and the view is shut in by a barrier of rugged and apparently barren hills;—while on turning to the east and south, is seen an interminable plain, the soil of which, changing from the hard clay of the "Mohar" to the sand of the "Thull," gradually loses itself in the horizon. The area included within this general description, is made up of three strongly marked natural divisions—I. The Salt Range; II. The cultivated plains along the base of these hills, subdivided popularly into the "Mohar" and "Dunda;" and III. The "Thull." Each of these deserves separate notice.

General aspect.

10. The portion of the chain of hills called the Salt-Range, included within the limits of this district, commences at the village of Bhudrar on the east, and ends on the west at the Sukeysur hill, the highest peak in the range, a total length of about forty miles. At its narrowest part, opposite Kutha, the range does not exceed eight miles in width, but from this point it rapidly increases, till at Jubbee, the interval between the plains on both sides cannot be less than twenty miles; thence it narrows again, rapidly, and the external ridges, on both sides of the range, closing round the Soon valley, unite and form the Sukeysur hill. The area between these limits, is made up of a number of rock-bound alluvial basins, of which the largest, the Soon, and the Khubbukkee valleys, occupy the northern half of the range, while the lower portion is cut up into a number of very diminutive valleys and glens, by a succession of limestone ridges and their connecting spurs; of these, the Patiāl and Sukeysur mountains with the intermediate chain of lower hills, form the central watershed, issuing from which the surplus drainage passes off, to the south, into the plains below, but to the north, finding no outlet, it collects in the

The Salt-Range.

Part I]

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

lowest parts of the valleys and there forms lakes. In this part of the range, there are three of these sheets of water, of which the Oochalee lake, or "Sumoondur" as it is called, is by far the largest; of the other two, one is situated between the villages of Khubbukkee and Murdwal, and the other in front of the small village of Jāhlur. The southern face of the range exhibits a very rugged and broken appearance, its distorted strata, rent cliffs, and huge detached masses of rock telling plainly of the violence of the commotion which must have attended the birth of these hills. The irregularity of the outline on this side is further increased by the occurrence of a succession of deep indentations, through which the surplus waters of the range empty themselves into the plains below. But on the north, the contour of the hills is for the most part smooth and undulating, and the descent into the plains of Pukkhur and Tullegung easy and gradual.

Scenery.	11. The scenery of the Salt Range, throughout pleasing, in places is grand and picturesque, and its hills and valleys, situated at elevations varying from 2,500 to 5,000 feet above the sea-level, enjoy a climate many degrees cooler than that of the plains, and not unlike that of Cashmere. The soil formed of the gradual disintegration of the lime-stone and sand-stone rocks, of which the upper surface of the range is chiefly composed, is exceedingly fertile, and its powers are being constantly renovated by fresh deposits of alluvium brought down by the torrents, which discharge into the valleys the drainage from the surrounding hills. Cultivation here is almost entirely dependent on rain, but owing to the comparative coolness of the climate, which by reducing the evaporation from the surface economizes the supply of moisture, the crops in ordinary seasons ripen without the want of artificial irrigation being felt; so much is this the case, that it is a common saying among the people, that the Rubbee crop in the Soon valley (the richest and largest in the range) has never been known to fail. These hills moreover are not without the attractive influence on clouds which similar masses exert elsewhere, and as a consequence the fall of rain in the range is far greater than in the plains to the south; this fact of course materially contributes to the stability of its cultivation.
Climate.	
Soil.	
Character of cultivation.	
Rain-fall.	

Vegetation of Salt Range.	12. The vegetation on the southern face is of the scantiest description, being confined to a few stunted Phoolle trees (<i>Accacia Modesta</i>), and the Salsolas and other plants peculiar to soils impregnated with salt. In the interior of the range, however, a notable change in this respect is observable, for although it is nowhere well wooded
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yet trees of many kinds are to be met with in considerable numbers,* and the hill sides are everywhere green with bushes of the Bog Myrtle (*Dodonea Burmanniana*) and a plant (*Adhatoda Vassica*) called by the natives "Baheykur." The trees which are found in the greatest numbers and appear indigenous are the Wild Olive (Kâo), the Phoolâee above spoken of, the common Indian Mulberry, and the "Kungur" (*Rhus Kukkur Singhi*); a great number of other varieties are to be seen as single trees, here and there, in the beds of torrents, or by the side of water-courses. It must not be omitted from mention that the Sheeshum thrives well in the valleys, without however attaining to any great size, but the climate is too cold for the Sirus, and I doubt if there is a single specimen of this tree in the whole range.

13. The plains extending along the base of the Salt Range, known to the people as the "Mohar," present a marked and disagreeable contrast to the valleys above. The main features of this tract are, a fertile strip of alluvial land from three to four miles in width, sloping rapidly away from the hills, and closely intersected by the beds of torrents, succeeded by level plains in places impregnated with salt, and barren, in others formed of good culturable soil. The only approach to vegetation consists of Kureel bushes, thinly distributed over the surface, with, here and there, trees of the "Furrash" and "Keekur" varieties, found in the greatest numbers in the beds of torrents. Tillage is almost exclusively confined to the upper portion (the "Mohar" proper), the land there being of better quality and in quantity more than sufficient for the wants of the inhabitants; the lower part (the "Dunda") is chiefly used by the villagers as pasture grounds for cattle.

The "Mohar," including the "Dunda."

Vegetation.

14. The most important of the streams which permeate this tract, are, the "Vahee," which debouches on to the plains near the village of Kutha; the "Sirukkha," which waters the fine estates of Jhubbee and Dhokree; and the "Dhodha," which after receiving the drainage from Sukeysur and the hills round "Umb," fertilizes the lands of the border village of Kiree Golawalee. But of all the many channels by which the drainage of the Salt Range is conducted into the plains, the first named is the only one that holds a constant supply of water.

Streams.

* Trees that can stand frost grow luxuriantly in the valleys if they are allowed, but the zemindars find that they interfere with cultivation and hence it is the exception to find them in such positions. The exceptions are in the cases of graveyards and tombs of saintly characters, where superstition stops in to guard the spontaneous growth.

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Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

Scarcity of
good water in
the "Mohar."

15. The scarcity of good water is one of the marked characteristics of this part of the district. The springs of good water which here and there are to be found trickling out of the clefts of the rocks above, become in their passage through the inferior salt strata so brackish, as to be quite unfit for use by either men or animals; and the subsoil everywhere throughout this tract is so thoroughly impregnated with saline matter, that all attempts to obtain good water by means of wells have hitherto failed; hence the population are driven to store up supplies of this necessary of life in tanks, but the heat, increased by radiation from the adjacent rocks, is so intense, that not infrequently these reservoirs dry up before they can be replenished; when this occurs the people are put to great straits, having often to perform a daily journey of many miles to obtain water sufficient for themselves and their cattle. It may be added that these tanks are indiscriminately used by men and animals, and hence in course of time the water becomes so impure, as to be a fruitful source of disease, of which guinea worm is not the least distressing as it is the most common form.

The Thull.

16. In common parlance, the entire expanse of country south of the Salt Range, beyond the influence of the rivers, is called the "Thull," but in speaking more discriminately, this word is used to indicate that portion of the district, which is situated south of the road from Khoshab to Dera Ismail Khan. A casual observer would say of this dreary region, that it resembles nothing so much as an angry sea, sand-hills being substituted for waves; and to a certain extent the remark would be true of a portion of the Thull, and yet such a description would convey a very imperfect notion of the country known by this name, for it leaves out some important features, without which the sketch is wanting in truth, and degenerates into a caricature. To render the likeness complete we must add, that the waves or hillocks of sand possess this peculiarity, that they all run in one direction, north-west and south-east, that in the intervals between these waves occur patches of hard soil, which produce good crops of grass, while the whole surface is covered by stunted bushes. Nor is this all, the general sandy and undulating character of the Thull is in places broken by long stretches of perfectly level ground (called Puttee), which under artificial irrigation produce excellent crops. One of these belts occurs west of Noorpore, and is said to extend without a break as far as Mozuffurgurh; its average width in this district is about two miles. Here the best villages are to be found, and throughout the Thull it is only in the "Puttee" that masonry wells are to be met with.

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[Part I

17. The vegetation of the Thull consists almost entirely of low brushwood and grasses. The few trees may be counted on the fingers, and with rare exceptions are to be found only round villages. The "Ber" seems to be the only tree that survives in any numbers the scorching heat and long continued droughts of this arid region. The bushes to be seen everywhere are the "Phôg" (*Calligonum Polygonoides*), the "Lana" (*Caroxylon Fœtidum*), and the "Booeë" (*Pandertia Pilosa*), on which camels browse. The "Mudâr" (*Calatropis Gigantea*), and the "Hurmûl" (*Peganum Harmala*), which nothing will touch. But of the two last, the former yields a fine floss, which has been successfully worked into rugs, and might be utilized in other ways, and the latter is used by the people as a medicine, and is supposed by them to possess many virtues, a belief however which European adepts do not share. As before stated, the yield of grass in favorable seasons is considerable, but still, owing to the prevalence of sand-hills, on which little or none is to be found, the same area will not support so many cattle as in the Bar. Of the many varieties of grass produced, the "Khubbul" (the "Doob" of Hindoostan), the "Dhamun," and "Chheembur," all prostrate grasses, are the most prized.

Vegetation of the "Thull."

18. It has been already stated that masonry wells are not uncommon in the "Puttee." These are all sunk in the immediate vicinity of villages, and are used both for domestic purposes and to raise a small crop of wheat or vegetables. In other parts of the Thull, "kutchâ" wells are dug and periodically renewed as required, it having been found that wells of this class fall in after being used for twelve or eighteen months. They are never employed by the people for irrigation, but solely for supplying drinking water for themselves and their cattle. The water of the Thull is all more or less brackish, and it is only after long use that it can be consumed without producing injurious effects. It is found at distances varying from 45 to 60 feet from the surface.

Supply of water.

19. From the foregoing description it will be seen that Nature has formed this tract to be the abode of a pastoral population alone, and it is by such that we find it peopled; but the change from anarchy to settled government has so far modified the habits of the people, that whereas, prior to British rule, they subsisted entirely on the produce of their flocks and herds, having no fixed abodes, but moving from place to place wherever a good supply of grass was to be found;—they are now to be seen gradually settling down

Habits of the population.

Part I]

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

into permanent habitations, and availing themselves of every opportunity offered by the seasons to add to their other resources, by cultivating the patches of good soil with which the ridges of sand are everywhere interspersed. A marked change has taken place in this respect, and with the growth of settled habits an attachment to the soil is being rapidly developed.

The district
generally
healthy.

20. The general climatic conditions of the Shahpore district, have little to distinguish them from those of other tracts of country similarly situated with reference to the Himalayas. In India the heat in the plains being practically the same everywhere, the healthiness of a place appears to depend mainly on the quantity of moisture deposited on the surface, combined with the efficiency of the machinery for drainage, that is, the capacity of the soil to absorb or convey away rapidly the water falling on it; the rule apparently being, that the less the moisture, and the better the natural drainage, the healthier the place, and *vice versa*. Now the average rain-fall here throughout the year being only fifteen inches, and the texture of the soil in most parts of the district sufficiently loose* rapidly to absorb water, it should follow, if this rule is a true one, that the district is generally healthy; and such I think it may be pronounced unhesitatingly. The only exceptions are the tracts immediately bordering the rivers, where, in the autumn months, after very heavy floods, fever prevails and commits great ravages. The health of towns I say nothing of, as it is affected by so many causes peculiarly local, and can therefore form no criterion whereby to test the salubrity of the tract of country of which the towns constitute so infinitesimal a part.

Average
rain-fall low.

Prevalent
diseases.

The most prevalent diseases, among those of an endemic character, are stone in the bladder, the sufferers from which seem to come from all parts of the district; guinea-worm, confined exclusively to the tract at the foot of the Salt Range; and goitre, which is peculiar to the Midh Talooqua on the Chenab, where even the dogs do not escape.

* The upper-crust is composed of a tolerably stiff clayey soil, but it is not thick, and the sub-soil is sand. It will of course be understood that I am speaking exclusively of the plains. It may be added, that the average rain-fall having been deduced from observations made exclusively in the plains, no information can be given as to the actual difference in this respect between the hills and plains, but there is little doubt of the fact before noticed, that the balance is largely in favor of the former tract. In the matter of temperature the Salt Range possesses still great advantages, the valleys being certainly not less than 10 degrees, and the highest peaks probably 20 degrees, cooler than the plains all the year round; perhaps during the dry weather immediately preceding the rains the difference in temperature is not so great.

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21. The success of agriculture in this district is so largely dependent on the annual floods from its rivers, that a report on the settlement of the land revenue would be incomplete without a passing notice of the latter. The district is traversed throughout its length by the Jhelum. This river, otherwise known as the Vidusta and Behat, rises in the south-eastern corner of the Cashmere valley, after traversing which it is joined by the Kishengunga, and the united streams from this point, flowing nearly due south, enter British territory a few miles above the town of Jhelum. The river, from the moment that it enters the plains, following the general slope of the country, adopts a more westerly course, which it maintains without much variation till it mingles its waters with the Chenab at Trimmoo, a few miles below the town of Jhung, having traversed in its passage through hills and plains, a distance of not less than four hundred and fifty miles, of which about two hundred have lain in British territory. In the plains the Jhelum is a muddy river, with a current of about four miles an hour. The average width of the stream in this district, at flood, is about 800 yards, dwindling down, in the winter months, to less than half this size. Fickle, as all Indian rivers are, from the circumstance that they flow through a flat clayey soil, unable to resist the action of water, perhaps none can surpass the Jhelum in this respect, nor in the damage which it annually causes by its vagaries. This fact, combined with the comparative narrowness of its channel, has probably led to the existence of a custom, which will be fully described in its proper place, by which the integrity of estates on both banks of the river is preserved. A similar usage, be it remarked, prevails on the Ravee, due probably to the same causes. A remarkable feature of this river is the sudden freshets to which it is subject. These occur after very heavy rain in the hills, when the swollen stream, overleaping its banks, inundates the country for miles on either side, and then gradually subsides within its normal bounds. These freshets, or "kângs" as they are called by the people, are very different in their character to the floods caused by the melting of the snows, as they seldom last more than one or two days. In favorable seasons, several of these inundations take place, and it is not easy to exaggerate the beneficial effects produced on the large area thus submerged. The soil becomes thoroughly saturated, and its productive powers often greatly enhanced, by the deposits of alluvium left by the receding waters.

Rivers.

The Jhelum.

22. For twenty-five miles the Chenab forms the boundary between this district and Goojranwala; draining,

The Chenab.

Part I]

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

as it does, a larger area, the volume of its waters is greater than that of the Jhelum, but then its stream being broader, the current is more sluggish, and it is not liable to shift its channel so frequently or so rapidly as that river. Its width, during the rains, at the ferry opposite Pindée Bhuttian, is considerably over a mile. Impetuous while in flood, its average velocity does not exceed two and a half miles an hour. As an agent for adding to the productive powers of the soil, the Chenab is decidedly inferior to the Jhelum, the deposits left by its floods being inferior both in quality and quantity.

Ferries.

23. The communications across these rivers are kept open by a number of ferries, of which the ferries on the Chenab, five in number, are under the management of the Gojranwala authorities; while of those on the Jhelum, three, including the important ferry and bridge of boats opposite Pind Dadun Khan, are administered by the Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum. The remaining fifteen are attached to this district. The income from these fluctuates considerably, but averages about six thousand rupees a year, of which nearly half is derived from the one ferry of Khoshab, where the road between Lahore and the frontier stations of Dera Ismail Khan and Bunnoo crosses the river. A large proportion of the income of this ferry is due to the traffic between the south-eastern districts of the Punjab and the Salt Mines of Wurchha. In one of the appendices will be found a list of the ferries and the income realized during the past five years.

Canals.

24. Inundation canals may now be counted as a distinct feature in the agricultural system of the district, and will find appropriate mention here. Although by no means new to the district, as evidenced by the many remains of such works to be met with along the edge of the Bar on the Jhelum side, all that ever existed had been allowed to fall into disuse, and had long ago become silted up. At length, in 1860, one of these was experimentally cleared out by Mr. McNabb, then Deputy Commissioner of the district. The partial success of the trial, combined with judicious encouragement, led Sahib Khan, Tewana, a wealthy and enterprising native gentleman, to excavate an entirely new canal, to water a grant of waste land of which he had obtained a long lease. Fortunately for the future of the district, the work was completely successful, and the Mullick's gains large, and from that time it has been the duty of the District Officer, rather to control within reasonable bounds, than to foster the spirit of enterprise which

has arisen in consequence. It has already resulted in the partial opening out of the "Raneewah," the largest of the old canals, and the excavation of several new ones, and there is every reason to believe that this system of irrigation will ere long be largely developed.

25. I now propose to notice briefly the chief natural products of the district, and this will perhaps be most conveniently effected by classifying them under the heads of I. Mineral, II. Animal, and III. Vegetable products. Under the first class will come Salt, Saltpetre and Sujjec. The second will comprise Ghee, Wool and Hides, and the third will be composed almost exclusively of agricultural produce; these last will demand fuller notice as having a more immediate bearing on the main subject of this report.

Natural products of the district.

26. Salt is found throughout the hills which derive their name from this mineral, concealed in the red marl which gives to the range one of its most characteristic features. Experiment has shown that the Salt is exceedingly pure, and as the average thickness of the beds is probably not less than 150 feet, the supply would appear to be inexhaustible. During the Sikh times the revenue from this source was realized by means of farms, but owing to general bad management, seldom exceeded six lacs of rupees a year, the price of the mineral at the mines being then one rupee per maund. Since the introduction of British rule the increase in this branch of revenue has been very rapid, viz. from seven and a half to upwards of thirty-three lacs of rupees; this has partly been due, it is true, to the price having been gradually raised from two to three rupees per maund, but much more to improved administration, which has rendered such a thing as smuggling impossible, and which, by the construction of good roads, by the removal of all restrictions, and by ensuring the safety of life and property, has given an impulse to trade such as it never received before.

Salt.

27. Saltpetre is found native mixed with the earth throughout the Bar. It is met with, in the greatest quantities, in the earth of the numerous mounds called "Ahlis," scattered over the district, marking the sites of what probably were once thriving towns and villages. The salt is obtained by lixiviation of this earth. The rude process by which this is effected is well known: the solution is afterwards boiled in large iron pans till it approaches saturation, and is then allowed to cool and crystallize. The average produce of a pan is thirty seers, and as the manufacture of Saltpetre is only carried on during the seven dry months,

Saltpetre.

Part I]

Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

the annual out-turn of each cauldron may be roughly set down as one hundred and fifty maunds. The Crimean war appears to have given a great impulse to the trade in this Salt, for I find that the number of licenses to work pans began rapidly to increase from 1855, when they were 694, till they amounted, in 1858, to no less than 4,856, representing an annual production of 7,28,400 maunds or 26,014 tons, the selling price being at this period four rupees per maund. From that time the trade in this article has been steadily declining, so that during the past year only 185 licenses were taken out, and the Salt can now be had for a little more than one rupee per maund.

Sujjee.

28. Sujjee, or impure carbonate of soda, is the incinerated ash of the *Salsola Griffithsii*, a plant found in great quantities in the Bar south and east of the road leading from Lahore to the frontier. The mode of obtaining the crude soda, is almost identical with that adopted by the Spaniards in the manufacture of the same substance, called by them *Barilla*. Circular-pits, five or six feet in diameter, and about two feet deep, are dug at convenient distances, according to the requirements of the crops, and into these, the half dried sheaves of the plant are successively thrown, until the pit is nearly filled with the ashes of the plant in a state of semi-fusion. The operation lasts about twenty-four hours, and the quantity burned, during this time, is about two hundred bundles, each of about half a maund. The contents of the pit are then well stirred and allowed to cool, a little dry earth being scattered over the surface to prevent evaporation. The pits are opened on the fifth or sixth day, when the Sujjee is found concreted together into a hard cellular mass. The selling price of Sujjee is now one rupee two annas a maund, during the Sikh time the price varied from two to three maunds for the rupee. Sujjee is exported from this district chiefly to the north and east, towards Rawulpindee, Sealkote, and Cashmere. It is extensively used in the manufacture of soap, paper, and glass, and as a substitute for soap by the poorer classes, it is also largely employed in the process of bleaching; lastly, native practitioners use it as a medicine. The demand for Sujjee has been steadily rising, and consequently the sums realized from farming the monopoly of manufacturing this alkali, have increased from thirteen hundred to upwards of eight thousand rupees.

Animal products—Wool.

29. As before stated, the chief animal products are Wool, Ghee, and Hides. It is estimated, that the shearings of the large flocks of the Thull and Bar yield annually not

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less than twelve thousand maunds, or upwards of four hundred tons of wool. Of this, probably two-thirds are exported, and the remainder consumed in the manufacture of blankets and felts. The fleece of the Thull sheep has the reputation of being the finest in the Punjab.* The sheep are sheared twice in the year, in the months of Cheyt (April) and Kartik (October), the average yield of each separate shearing, called a "pothee," being about three quarters of a seer. The wool is bought by the "pothee," so that, in speaking of the market price, it is customary to quote the number of "pothees" obtainable for the rupee. The selling price just now (1866) being four "pothees" per rupee, gives eight annas as the annual yield in cash per head of sheep to the owner; this will sufficiently account for the great rise in price of these animals of late years. The head quarters of the trade in wool is Noorpore, in the Thull, where a superior kind of blanket called "Loee" is also manufactured. A good deal of the wool produced in the Bar, is made into felt at Bhera, which supplies a good part of the Punjab with this article.

30. Ghee is also largely produced in the district, the annual out-turn being probably not less than fifteen thousand maunds, of which about a third is consumed on the spot, and the remainder exported. In former days nearly the whole of the surplus produce found its way to Lahore and Umritsur, but of late years the trade in this article has been diverted towards Scinde and the frontier. Like that of almost all articles of consumption, the price of Ghee has risen wonderfully since the country passed into our hands, and, whereas, prior to that event, five or six seers could be obtained for the rupee, now, the same money will not purchase a third of the last mentioned quantity. Regarding Hides there is nothing more to be said than that many thousands are annually sent down the river for export to England, nearly all in their raw state.

Ghee.

Hides.

31. I now come to the last division of this subject, which will be devoted to a description of the chief products of agriculture. The description given of the district will have shown, that it is better adapted, by circumstances of soil, climate, and natural irrigation, to the growth of spring than of autumn crops; and the results of collating the statistics, bearing on this point, collected during the progress of the settlement, so far accord with this, as to show, that of the whole area under tillage, 61 per cent, or nearly two-

Vegetable products.

* The specimen of Thull wool sent from this district to the Punjab Exhibition carried off the first prize.

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thirds, were under Rubbee crops. The staple produce is Wheat for the spring harvest, and Bajra and Cotton for the autumn crop. Wheat predominates so greatly as to cover no less than 47 per cent of the entire cultivated area. Bajra* (20 per cent.) is the next most extensively grown crop, after which follow at long intervals, Cotton (10 per cent.), Gram † Barley and Joâr ‡ (not 4 per cent.), and the ordinary millets and pulses. Of the more valuable crops, Sugar-cane is grown exclusively along the Chenab, and the poppy plant on wells, chiefly along the left bank of the Jhelum between Shahpoor and Bhera. The latter is a very paying crop, and its cultivation has made such rapid strides as to have become quadrupled since Mr. Ouseley made the settlement of that part of the district. In Appendix No. II will be found a complete summary of the agricultural produce of this district, and I now proceed to describe briefly the localities in which the chief articles are grown, and any peculiarities that may seem deserving of notice in their modes of culture.

Wheat.

32. Wheat for its successful culture requires plenty of moisture; accordingly, it thrives best in the low lands along the rivers, and here it is almost the only crop grown, for very soon after it is cut and carried, the streams, swollen by the melting of the snows, rise and inundate the area lately occupied by the crop, and only recede in time for a fresh sowing. The valleys of the Salt-Range are peculiarly adapted, with reference both to quality of soil and climatic conditions, to the production of this staple, and thus we find it covering no less than 62 per cent of the whole area under tillage in that part of the district. In lesser quantities it is raised on land artificially irrigated in the tracts called the "Nukka," but in the plains along the foot of the Salt-Range, owing to the deficiency of moisture and excessive heat of that region, the proportion of this crop grown is very small and liable to frequent failures. In the still more arid parts of the district it may be said to be unknown. Wheat sowings commence, in the plains, in the month of Kartik (middle of October), in the hills nearly a month earlier. The seed is sown with the drill, § about a maund to each acre of land. The yield varies greatly. In choice spots in the Salt-Range actual trials have shown it to reach the almost incredible

* *Holcus Spicatus.*† *Cicer Arietinum.*‡ *Sorghum Vulgare.*

§ The only exception to this is in land artificially irrigated, where, owing to the necessity of dividing the area to be sown into beds, in order to ensure a regular distribution of the water, the better mode of putting the seed into the ground cannot be adopted, and, recourse is had to hand-sowing.

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quantity of thirty-five maunds, and the produce of an acre of good sailab land, when assisted by artificial irrigation, cannot be less than twenty-four maunds. The average yield of every kind of soil, taken one with the other, I should be inclined to fix at, at least, twelve maunds. The crop ripens in the plains during the month of April, in the Salt Range it is not ready for the sickle till nearly a month later.

33. Bajra is one of the hardiest of the cereals, and thrives everywhere as a rain crop. Throughout the Khoshab tehseel, it forms the staple food of the agricultural population. In the plains round the base of the Salt Range, it is the chief crop grown during the Khurreef harvest; but, owing to the early setting in of the cold weather in the valleys, above, Bajra can only be successfully cultivated there, in years when the rains set in early. In unfavourable seasons its place is taken by Till,* Moong,† Mâsh,‡ &c. South of the Jhelum, Bajra is much less grown, having a formidable rival in Joâr, the stalks of which supply valuable fodder for cattle, while those of Bajra are useless. The fine seed of this plant is sown broad-cast (about 2 seers to the acre,) and afterwards is *ploughed* into the ground. Ten maunds to the acre is considered a good crop.

Bajra.

34. Cotton has always been very largely grown in this district. Few wells are there without their patch of two or three acres of this plant, more than this cannot ordinarily be set apart for its culture, as it is a crop that requires constant attention in weeding and watering. Ripening, as cotton does, late in the year, all attempts to raise it in the Salt Range have hitherto failed; but in the plains immediately below, where the temperature is exceptionally high all the year round, the plant is successfully cultivated as a rain crop, and in favorable seasons yields abundantly. The seed is put into the ground in March, at the rate of eight seers to the acre, and the pickings, commencing in October, last to the end of December, and even later. The average out-turn is about one and a half maunds of clean cotton per acre. The same plants are often made to yield three crops, by cutting them down level with the ground each year after the cotton has been gathered, at the same time the soil is well ploughed up between the roots and manured. During the last four years, the amount produced in the district, has averaged thirty-two thousand maunds, of which about half, it is estimated, has been retained for home consumption, and the other half exported.

Cotton.

* *Sesamum Orientale*. † *Phaseolus aureus*. ‡ *Phaseolus radiatus*.

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Opium.

35. The only other agricultural product, that requires detailed notice at my hands, is Opium. The cultivation of the poppy plant being unrestricted, and the price of the drug extracted therefrom being kept up at a high figure by the system of taxing consumption in force, the profits realized in this district have been very large, and this has led, as before stated, to a very remarkable increase in the area devoted to the growth of this crop ; so that I doubt much if there is now any district in the Punjab that produces more Opium than Shahpoor. The poppy plant requires a rich soil and abundance of moisture. The mode of culture is this : the land, which it is proposed to sow with this crop, is allowed to lie fallow for one season at least, during the rains it is repeatedly ploughed and well manured. It then remains untouched till the beginning of November, when it is prepared to receive the seed, which, at the rate of half a seer to the acre, is sown broad-cast, mixed with equal parts of sand to ensure equal distribution. Water is supplied as often as the surface shows signs of dryness. The young plants begin to show themselves about the twelfth day, and from this time, till the pods begin to ripen, the successful cultivation of the crop depends on the attention paid to watering, weeding and manuring. The pods begin to swell in March, and towards the end of this month, an estimate can be framed of the probable yield of Opium, and Khutrees then come forward, and buy the standing crop, after which the zemindars have nothing to do but supply water as required.

Extraction
of the drug.

36. The drug is obtained by making incisions in the pod with a three bladed lancet. The incisions are made vertically, about half an inch in length, in the centre of the pod. Three strokes are made with the instrument each time, making nine cuts, and this is repeated four times at intervals of as many days, making 36 incisions in all ; the whole operation extending over about a fortnight. The work is carried on during the middle of the day, as it is found that the heat assists the exudation of the juice. The morning following the making of each set of incisions, the juice which has exuded from the cuts is scooped off with shells, and collected in cups made of the leaves of the plant itself.

Cost of ex-
traction.

37. It is estimated that one man, (women and children are not much employed in this work here) can, on an average, incise the pods and collect the juice of about 10 merlas of the crop ; and as this is repeated four times, and the laborers are paid from two to four annas a day, the cost of extraction varies from eight to sixteen rupces an acre.

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The produce of an acre is from four to eight seers, the selling price from eight to twelve rupees. In the process of drying, the extract loses about a fourth of its weight.

38. The area under poppy cultivation is now little below three thousand acres, the produce of which, at an average of six seers per acre, amounts to four hundred and fifty maunds! Even reducing this by a fourth to allow for loss by drying, we have still the enormous quantity of three hundred and forty maunds, which, at ten rupees a seer, represent no less a sum than one lac and thirty thousand rupees! Careful enquiry has shown that, of the produce of the district, all but a few maunds leaves it, the destination of by far the greater part being those centres of Sikhism, Lahore and Umritsur.

Estimated
out-turn.

39. The subject of rotation of crops and other means of increasing the productiveness of land have lately attracted attention; I shall therefore add here the results of my observations on these interesting topics. It is almost needless to remark, that nothing approaching scientific farming can be looked for in a country where the people are both ignorant and firmly wedded to traditional rules and customs, and where (from the fact that while for centuries the population has not sensibly increased, land has been available in quantities more than sufficient to supply the wants of all), the same stimulus to exertion has not existed as in our own country, with its limited extent of arable land, and rapidly increasing population. But it must not therefore be assumed that the people are ignorant of the ordinary processes of husbandry. The fact is that experience here, as elsewhere, has taught them all that is perhaps needful for them to know in their present circumstances. That such is true as regards this district, and that the practice of the agricultural population has modified itself everywhere throughout this tract, to suit the particular conditions of each portion, I will now endeavour to show.

Rotation of
crops.

40. The ordinary means by which the productive powers of land are economized, increased, and renewed, are (1) rotation of crops, (2) manuring, and (3) fallows. Let us now see how far the conditions under which agriculture is carried on in this district, compel a resort to any of these aids. And *first*, as regards the sailab cultivation along the rivers. Here, nature allows of no interference, but makes and mars as she wills. As soon as the crop is cut, the river rising, inundates the land, and when she retires it is found that a deposit of sand, or one of alluvium, of more or less richness, has been left. If fit for cultivation *at all*, the land

Rotation of
crops, manur-
ing and fallows
as aids to cul-
tivation.Not neces-
sary in the
"Hethur."

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is practically new, and as such requires no extraneous help to increase its fertility, and the crop that is most valuable, (wheat), is grown year after year without intermission.

Indispensable in the "Nukka,"

41. But on passing out of the range of the river floods, and entering the tract where tillage depends on artificial irrigation, the case becomes altogether altered. Here we have a number of fixed circles (with wells as their centres) beyond the circumference of which cultivation cannot ordinarily pass, and the area being limited, each of the aids to agriculture enumerated above is successively brought into play, to obtain from the soil as large a return as possible. It will perhaps not be uninteresting to describe briefly the system generally pursued to effect this. Suppose for example that fifty acres of land are attached to a well: of this twenty acres will be sown with spring crops, the same extent of land is lying fallow, prepared for cultivation, together with ten acres sown during the preceding khureef. After the spring crop is cut, half of the same land will be sown with autumn crops, and for the next Rubbee there will be the twenty acres which have been lying fallow. This will leave half the land lately under spring crops, and ten acres of the previous khureef, to form the fallow, which will receive repeated ploughings and manurings, till its turn comes round to be cultivated again. By this means each plot of land receives rest alternately, once for three, and the next time for four harvests. On a well of this size the proportions in which the ordinary crops are grown would be as nearly as follows :

Rubbee,	Wheat,	14 Acres
	Barley,	2 "
	Poppy,	1 "
	Turnips for feeding bullocks,	3 "
Total,		20 "
Khureef,	Cotton,	3 Acres
	Cheena,	1 "
	Bajra,	1 "
	Churree for bullocks,	5 "
Total,		10 "

The above exhibits the internal economy of a well in regard to the matters under discussion, and one general rule may be deduced from it, that an autumn crop may, and often does, follow a spring crop in the same land, but the converse of this is never seen.

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42. I pass on to the Salt Range, and the tract at its base. In the former the soil is ordinarily too rich to require a lengthened repose; that within the immediate influence of the hill torrents, called Hâil, like the alluvial tracts bordering the rivers, is fertilized at short intervals by the deposits brought down by the streams, and yields double crops in never-ending succession; and for the remainder, experience has shown, that a fallow extending over twelve months, during which the surface is repeatedly turned up by the plough, is amply sufficient to restore it to full vigour. The invariable rule in these lands is that an *autumn follows a spring crop, and then the land is allowed to lie fallow for a whole year.* The zemindars say, that the Bajra, which usually follows wheat here, restores the productive powers of the soil, but this must not be understood too literally; they mean, probably, that Bajra is the one crop of all others which least unfits the land to produce wheat; and here experience has doubtless taught them aright. It may be added, that the use of manure is little known throughout this part of the district. In the plains along the base of this range land is so plentiful, that the site of cultivation is shifted very often; three years fallow succeed three years cultivation, but the crops are nearly always the same; wheat and gram for the spring, and Bajra with, perhaps a little cotton and pulses, for the autumn crop. The only exception to this rule is in the "Naladar" land, the "Hâil" of the plains, which from being twice in the year covered with a rich deposit of alluvium, brought down by the torrents after rain, is enabled to produce annually two crops without requiring any rest. Here also the use of manure is ignored, nature having provided a better substitute.

Little needed in the Salt Range.

Or "Mohar."

43. The subject of population and its divisions by creed, tribes, &c. will next be treated of. The census returns of 1854, which agree pretty closely with those prepared during the progress of the Settlement, give as the total population of the district the low number of 3,02,700 souls, which, divided by the total area, yields an average of only 64 persons to the square mile; but this will scarcely be a matter of surprise when the peculiar circumstances of the district are remembered, and the following figures will show that, while not so well off in this respect as some of the adjoining districts, Shahpoor is more densely populated than others to which it bears a close resemblance :—

Population.

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District.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Average of persons to each square mile.
Goojranwala, ...	4,042	5,99,889	148
Rawulpindee, ...	5,994	5,33,750	92
Googaira, ...	5,553	3,08,026	55
Jhung, ...	5,532	2,11,496	38
Shahpoor, ...	4,682	3,02,700	64

Unequally distributed over the district.

44. It is almost superfluous to state, after what has already been written, that the population is very unequally divided over this tract of country. The following table shows what the actual distribution is, the information being arranged according to the natural divisions of the district, the distinctive features of which have been described in the foregoing pages :—

Natural divisions.	No. of villages.	POPULATION.			Total area in acres.	Area in square miles.	Average of population to the square mile.
		Hindoo.	Mussulman.	Total.			
Hethur, ...	210	23,393	92,677	1,16,070	3,73,925	584	198
Nukka, ...	172	17,655	50,810	68,465	3,05,210	477	143
Salt Range,	34	1,796	26,811	28,607	2,48,980	389	74
Mohar, ...	30	4,077	34,866	38,943	5,63,137	880	44
Bar, ...	177	2,987	35,069	38,056	9,17,736	1,434	26
Thull, ...	24	2,144	10,415	12,559	5,87,772	918	13
Total, ...	617	52,052	2,50,648	3,02,700	29,96,760	4,682	64

Agricultural divisions not thinly populated.

45. Thus it will be seen that the divisions of the district exclusively devoted to agriculture are far from being thinly inhabited. The population of the Salt Range appears less dense than it really is, owing to the culturable area in that part bearing so small a ratio to the hills themselves,

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which are only used as pasture grounds for cattle. It will not fail to be noticed how largely the Mahomedan prevails over the Hindoo element in the population.

46. There is yet another point from which to view this subject: the distribution of the population by religion and tribes, with reference to the extent of land in the occupation of each tribe, and the revenue for which they are severally liable. All this information will be found exhibited in the subjoined table, which, together with the map prepared to illustrate it, will form a suitable introduction to a brief account of each tribe:—

Distribution
of population
by tribes.

RELIGION.	Tribes.	No. of villages.	Area in acres.	Jumma, including Tirnee.	REMARKS.
MUSULMAN.	Gondul, ...	63	2,67,229	23,647	Converted Hindoos.
	Ranjha, ...	64	1,16,050	33,129	
	Jhumnut, ...	15	28,181	15,250	
	Mekun, ...	27	54,342	8,089	
	Tiwana, ...	13	1,97,044	11,892	
	Junjooha, ...	5	50,641	9,400	
	Khokhur, ...	72	2,08,375	55,754	Mahomedan immigrants from the west.
	Awan, ...	65	4,91,205	82,280	
	Beloch, ...	41	1,64,541	15,750	
	Miscellaneous, ...	269	13,57,526	2,12,849	
	Total, ...	634	29,35,134	3,67,940	
HINDOO.	Brahmins, Khutrees, and Aroras, }	13	61,026	8,572	
	Grand Total, ...	647	29,96,760	3,76,512	

47. It will be seen then that the agricultural population is almost entirely made up of tribes professing the Mahomedan religion, whether these be converted Hindoos, or foreigners holding that creed, who, from time to time, have immigrated from countries lying beyond the Sooleymân range.

Agricultural
population al-
most exclu-
sively Maho-
medan.

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Rajpoot
tribes.

48. The Gonduls, Jhummut, Mekuns, and Tiwanas, all claim to be descended from a branch of the "Sooryavunsa" Rajpoots, and their traditions describe how they were all converted to Mahomedanism by the famous Baba Fureed, of Pak Puttun. It is not improbable therefore, that they may be all descended from the same ancestor, though, owing to the lapse of time, and the absence of anything in the shape of family records, all attempts to clear up this point have failed. This much we may perhaps infer from the coincidence above noticed, in their traditions, that this large section of the existing population of the district, migrated to its present abodes within the last six hundred years.*

The Gonduls.

49. The Gonduls occupy the central portion of the Bhera Tahseel, and are a pastoral people, subsisting almost entirely on the produce of their flocks and herds. Physically they are a fine race, owing doubtless to the free and active life they lead, and the quantities of animal food they consume, and if we except their inordinate passion for appropriating the cattle of their neighbours, which in their estimation carries with it no moral taint, they must be pronounced free from vice. The tribe is subdivided into the Bhoolloowanas and Deowânas, and from the latter proceed the Boodhakas, Mumnânas and, other less important off-shoots.

Jhummut
and Mekuns.

50. The Jhummut and Mekuns are found in great numbers throughout the Shahpoor Tahseel. The former are a quiet industrious race, devoted chiefly to agriculture, the latter are a more turbulent people, certain members of the tribe having always taken a prominent part in the troubles that agitated the district prior to the advent of settled Government. The leading men of this tribe are Khunjur Khan and his brother Bhai Khan, of Kot Bhai Khan. Both these tribes are descended from the same ancestor, from whom come also the Châchurs, Dhoddhee, and Hurguns; these last, as being numerically few and holding comparatively little land, have been ranged in the foregoing statement under the head "miscellaneous."

Chachurs,
Dhoddhees
and Hurguns.

The Tiwana
tribe.

51. The Tiwanas are a half pastoral, half agricultural tribe, occupying the tract intermediate between the "Thull" and "Mohar" of the Khoshab Tahseel. Their traditions tell how that, after their first migration from Hindoostan to the banks of the Indus, they returned under their leaders, and successively founded the villages of Oakley Mohlan,

* Sheikh Fureed-odeen, better known as Baba Fureed, is stated in the "Aieen-i-Akhari" to have died at Pak Puttun in A. H. 668, which corresponds with the year 1269 of our era.

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Bijâr, Bootala, Hudâlee, and Mitha Tiwana. They are a fine hardy race of men, and make good soldiers, but their good qualities are sadly marred by a remarkably quarrelsome disposition, which is a source of never ending trouble to themselves, and all with whom they are brought in contact. The chiefs of this tribe have always held a commanding position in this part of the country, as will be seen when I come to treat of the former history of this part of the Punjab.

52. The Ranjhas, together with several other less important off-shoots,* constitute a branch of the great Bhuttee tribe, Rajpoots of the Chundravunsa race. They occupy the greater part of the Midh and Moosa Choocha Talooquas, and are on the whole a peaceable and well disposed section of the population, subsisting chiefly by agriculture. In physique they resemble their neighbours the Gonduls, with whom they intermarry freely. The leading men among the Ranjhas are Daim of Buddur, Hayat Khan (Choocha) of Rân, Allabuksh of Midh, Rihaan of Nuseerpoor, and Raja of Ghaiwala.

Ranjhas and others a branch of the Bhuttee tribe.

53. The Junjoohas are descendants of Rajpoot immigrants from Chatourgurh. The early history of this tribe has been so fully discussed by Mr. A. Brandreth that it will be sufficient if I say, that they trace their descent from the Raja Mull who is said to have built the fort of Mulôt in the Jhelum district, and that the members of the tribe found in this district are stated to be the progeny of his great grandson Sumpâl. From at one time having been masters of nearly the whole of the Salt-Range, they have been reduced by the aggressions of the Awans to the occupancy of a few villages, mostly situated at the foot of those hills. In this district the only remnants of their former extensive possessions, are five estates in the eastern corner of the Khoshab Tahseel. Their spirit appears to have been crushed by continued misfortune, and they are now a listless apathetic people, at the same time they pride themselves on the purity of their blood, and will not allow their daughters to marry out of their own tribe. The chief, or Raja as he is styled, of this tribe is Sooltan Shuruf, of Kutha.

The Junjoohas tribe.

54. The Awans and the Khokurs both claim to be descended from Qootub Shah,† who is himself said to have

The Awans and Khokurs.

* The following are the principal divisions, Kulus, Kanjoo, Noon, Kuliar, Hutar, Tatree; these have been classed as "miscellaneous."

† The claim of descent from Qootub Shah may possibly, as regards the Awans, be a valid one, as two pedigree tables of the tribe, prepared at different times, viz: one at Sealkote in 1855, and the other in this district ten

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been a descendant of Ali, the son-in-law of Mahomet. The date of immigration of the former tribe is not known, but was probably quite recent, as when the Emperor Baber passed through the Salt-Range, the Junjooas occupied it almost exclusively, and he makes no mention of any such tribe as the Awans, who are now in possession of nearly the whole of that portion which lies in this district, as well as the greater part of the plains at its base. The Awans are a brave high spirited race, but withal exceedingly indolent. In point of character there is little in them to admire; head-strong and irascible to an unusual degree, and prone to keeping alive old feuds, they are constantly in hot water; their quarrels leading to affrays, and their affrays not unfrequently ending in blood-shed. As a set-off against this, it must be allowed that their manners are frank and engaging, and although they cannot boast of the truthfulness of other hill tribes, they are remarkably free from crime. The Khokhurs, judging from their peculiar social customs, are of Hindoo origin; they are found scattered all over the Punjab, and hold land in every part of this district. The tribe has become split up into innumerable sections, among which the Nissowânus of the Kaloowal Talooqua, notorious for their theiving propensities and generally lawless character, are the only powerful branch.

The Beloches.

55. I now come to the Beloches, the last of the tribes that require special notice. These are the descendants of immigrants from Kech Mekran on the shores of the Persian Gulf, where the tribe appears to have been settled previous to the Mohomedan invasion of Persia.* The families found in this district are probably descended from the founders of the three Deras, Mullick Sohrâb, and his three sons Ismail, Ghazee, and Futteh Khan, who migrating from their native country in A. H. 874 (A. D. 1469), took service under Sooltan Hoosein, Governor of Mooltan, and obtained from him charge of the country along our present frontier.† The possessions of the tribe are situated in a circle round Saiwal, which was founded by one of its chiefs. Another branch has its head quarters at Khoshab.

years later, exhibit a remarkable coincidence as regards the first four generations from the common ancestor. The long interval, in time and place between the preparation of the first and second tables would seem to preclude the suspicion of fabrication, and the close correspondence between the two documents bears testimony to the remarkable powers of memory possessed by the members of the "Meerasee" class.

* See Elphinstone's India, 3rd Edition, page 259.

† See a paper by Lieutenant R. MacLagan in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for November 1848.

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56. I propose now to describe somewhat minutely, the manners and customs of the people, as regards the houses they live in, the food they eat, the dress (including ornaments) they wear, and the mode in which they pass their time. I shall make no apology for introducing all this into a settlement report, for, apart from its intrinsic interest, the subject possesses peculiar value for all in any way concerned in the administration of the country, and especially for those so employed in the district itself.

The population viewed in its social aspect.

57. The dwellings of the common people, throughout the district, consist of one or more rooms called "kothas," with a court-yard in front. This court-yard, named "verha," is often common to several houses. These rooms are built ordinarily of clay, gradually piled up in successive layers and then plastered. The roofs are invariably flat, and are used as sleeping places during the hot weather. In the court-yard is generally seen a manger ("khoodlee"), and a house in which the cattle are sheltered from the cold in the winter months, which structures (called "suth" in the Bar, where they are very capacious) consist generally of four walls covered with a thatch. The only exceptions to the above general description, are the habitations of the people in the Thull, and in the hills. The former are often composed of nothing but wood and grass, and the latter are built entirely of boulders cemented together with clay; as however walls of this kind have little or no power of resisting rain, the roof is always supported on strong posts driven into the ground, the walls acting merely as a defence against the weather. As a rule the houses of the zemindars are built for them by the village carpenter ("Turkhan"), or potter ("Koomhar,") who receive their food while the work is going on, and a present of clothes or money when it is finished; payment for work at a fixed rate is only made by Khutrees and other non-proprietors. The timber used for roofing is usually "Keekur" or "Ber" in the plains, and "Kão" in the hills, the first two being usually the produce of the zemindars' own fields; beams of Deodar or Sheeshum are only to be seen in the houses of the rich.

Houses.

58. The requirements of a population low in the scale of civilization are few, and we see this exemplified in the furniture of their houses, which consist almost entirely of necessaries. It would be tedious, though not perhaps devoid of use, to give a complete description of all the articles in every day use in a household of this part of India, I shall therefore only enumerate the more important. First there are the receptacles for storing grain, of various

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sizes from the dimensions of a small room to those of a beer barrel; these are made by the women of the house, of fine clay mixed with chopped straw. The larger kind, called "Sukar," are square, and hold from forty to fifty maunds; the smaller description, "Kulhotee," are cylindrical in form, and hold but a few maunds. Next are to be seen some spinning wheels, as many as there are women, apparatus for churning milk, an instrument for cleaning cotton ("Belna"), a number of circular baskets, with and without lids, made of reeds ("Kharee" "Towng" &c.), in which are kept articles of clothing and odds and ends. Trays of reeds ("Chhnj," "Chhukor") used in cleaning grain. A goat-skin water bag ("Koonoo"), used on journeys, or when employed in the fields at a distance from home. A set of wooden measures for grain ("Topa," "Puropee" &c); a leather bag ("Khullur") for carrying flour when away from home; a variety of cooking vessels some of iron, and others of a composition resembling bell-metal. A number of earthen pots and pans in which are stored grain, condiments and other articles of food. A coarse iron sieve ("Puroon"). A pestle and mortar ("Dowree"), in which to pound spices and condiments. These with a few stools ("Peerha", "Peerhee"), and cots, complete the list of the fittings up of an interior here, and the same, with a few minor changes, would probably answer as a description of the furniture of a peasant's house in any part of the Punjab. It must not be supposed that all these things are disposed without order: space has to be economized, and everything, not in use, is therefore carefully arranged on shelves resting on pegs, driven into the walls round the rooms.

Food.

59. The food of the common people is very simple, consisting, in the hot weather, of cakes of wheaten flour moistened with butter-milk, for which butter, or "goor" (raw sugar) is sometimes substituted; and, in the cold weather, of Bajra with the same accompaniments. During the hot months the dough, after being kneaded, is taken to the village ovens, kept by a class called "Machhees," who live on the perquisites derived from baking food for the rest of the village community; but in the cold weather every family cooks for itself. The regular meals are taken twice a day, the first between 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and the other in the evening as soon as it becomes dark, the time varying with the seasons from 6 to 8 P. M. In addition to these regular meals, in the hot weather the remains of the previous days' food with a little butter-milk, is taken to the men working in the fields about an hour after sunrise, and parched grain is eaten in the afternoon: with the evening

meal either vegetables or "Dal" (lentils) is served according to the season. In the Thull during the cold weather water-melons enter largely into the ordinary food of the inhabitants, and the seeds are commonly parched and eaten mixed with other grain.

60. The male portion of the agricultural population, Occupations. is more or less employed in some one or other of the operations of husbandry all the year round, and this is especially the case in the tracts where crops are artificially irrigated; but the men of the pastoral tribes lead a comparatively lazy life, the demands on their labor being limited to drawing water for the cattle, and milking the cows. Women, on the other hand, are everywhere hard worked, the drudgery of their domestic occupations leaving them scarcely any leisure for rest or amusement. They must be up before it is light to churn the milk of the night before, and then sweep the house, throw away the rubbish, and make cakes of the cow-dung. Water has then to be fetched, an operation of great labor, involving as it sometimes does the carrying of two or three large jars several miles;* when this is over, it is time to commence cooking the morning meal, which when ready has to be taken to the men working in the fields. If after this their services are not required to watch the crops and frighten away the birds, they are expected to spin cotton or wool, to be made into clothing for the family, indeed the two occupations are often combined. Again, early in the afternoon preparations have to be made for the evening meal, the vegetables or "dal" are placed on the fire, and a second trip made to the well or village tank for water. By the time they return it is time to knead the flour, make it into cakes, and cook it for their husbands, sons and brothers, for these lords of the creation will be wrath if everything is not ready for their reception on their return from work; they will however unbend so far, as to assist in tying up and milking the cows. This done, the milk is put over a slow fire to warm, and the family sits down to dinner, and so the days pass with little variation from year to year, bringing no rest for the household drudge, till her girls are old enough to take her place, or age unfits her for further labor.

61. Closely connected with this subject, is the mode of reckoning time in vogue among the people. They divide the day into twelve parts: some of the divisions vary with the seasons, while others are fixed and constant; but as nearly all have reference to some one or more of their habitual Modes of reckoning time.

* In the Salt Range and along the foot of it.

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employments, it necessarily follows, that the divisions of the day are more minute than those of the night. The following table gives the nomenclature adopted respectively by Mahomedans and Hindoos, and opposite each recognized division of time will be found the corresponding period according to our method of computing time :—

Number.	DIVISIONS OF TIME AS RECOGNIZED		Corresponding English time.
	Among Mahomedans.	Among Hindoos.	
1	Dhumnee weyla,	Parbhât,	The time when the day is about to break, before objects can be clearly distinguished.
2	Nimâz weyla, ...	None,	About half an hour before sunrise.
3	Wudda weyla,...	None,	Sunrise—a little before or a little after.
4	Rotee weyla, ...	Rotee weyla, ...	Varies with the season, from 8 A. M. to between 10 and 11 A. M.
5	Dôpahur, ...	Dopahur,	Noon.
6	Pesheen weyla,	Pichhlapahur, ...	3 P. M.
7	Nuddhee Pesheen,	None,	"Little Pesheen," half way between "Pesheen" and "Deegur."
8	Deegur weyla, ...	None,	About an hour before sunset.
9	Nimâshan weyla,	Tirkâlan weyla,...	The "Neemshâm" of the Persians—a little after sunset.
10	Khooftân weyla,	Sôta weyla, ...	Sleeping time, varying with the season from 8 to 10 P. M.
11	Adh-rât,	Adhee-rât, ...	Midnight.
12	As-hoor,	None,	Corruption of "Sahoor," 3 A. M.

Dress of the
male popula-
tion.

62. The every-day dress of the male portion of the Mahomedan population living north of the Jhelum river consists of four garments—a "Mujla," a "Koorta," a "Châdur," and a Turban or "Pug" as it is here called. The first is a piece of cloth about three yards long, and a yard and a half wide, which is tied tightly round the waist, and allowed to hang in loose folds over the lower part of the body. The "Koorta" is a full cut tunic, with large open

sleeves reaching a little below the waist. The "Châdur" is made of three breadths of cloth, in length about as many yards, and is worn something in the manner of a plaid. Of the Turban nothing further need be said, than that its size depends much on the social position of the wearer, and increases with his importance. South of the Jhelum the "Koorta" is discarded, in the *Bâr* it is *never* seen, indeed the man who would wear such a garment there must be possessed of more than ordinary moral courage, to endure the jokes that would certainly be made at his expense. The material of which this simple clothing is made, is the ordinary coarse country cloth, except that along the rivers, especially the Chenab, colored Loongees are often used as "Mujlas." The "Kuliars," the chief camel owners of the Shahpore Tahseel, are also much given to wearing "Loongees." The Hindoos to a great extent follow the fashions of the Mahomedans among whom they live, in regard to the use of the "Koorta," but their mode of tying the turban is somewhat different, and the "Dhotce" replaces the "Mujla," the difference between these garments being in the manner of putting them on.

63. The Mahomedan women also wear the "Mujla" (tying it somewhat differently to the men), and this is usually a colored "Loongee." Their other garments are two, the "Cholee," and the "Châdur." The former has short sleeves, and fits closely round the breasts, leaving the remainder of the body bare, except where a small lappet hangs down and hides the stomach. The "Châdur" is a piece of cloth about three yards long and one and a half wide, worn as a veil over the head and upper part of the body, from which it falls in graceful folds nearly to the feet behind. The "Cholee" is generally made of strips of many colored silk, the "Châdur" of a coarse but thin description of country cloth called "Dhotur," sometimes dyed, but more often plain. To this the "Thull" is an exception, where veils of many colors, the patterns formed by spots disposed in a variety of ways on a dark ground, are the rule. In the hills, colored garments are scarcely ever seen. The Hindoo women of the Khutree class wear full trowsers called "Soothun," made of a striped material called "Soosee," the ground of which is usually blue. Over the head is thrown a "Châdur" of coarse cloth, prettily embroidered in many colored silks, called "Phoolkaree," and round the upper part of the body is worn a loose "Koorta" of silk or muslin. The women of the "Arora" class are clothed like the Khutranees, except that, in place of the trowsers, they wear a skirt called a "Ghuggra," and sometimes the

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"Mujla." It may be added, that it is the invariable rule, even among Mahomedans, that a girl shall wear a "Koorta," and plait the two front tresses of her hair, until she is married.

Ornaments.

64. The ornaments worn by the people are chiefly of silver, and are of so many shapes and sizes, that no mere description would serve to convey even an approach to a correct idea of them; I have therefore thought it best to attach to this report, a sheet containing drawings of all the ornaments in general use, with a brief note under each, giving the name by which it is known, and other particulars regarding it. The workmanship of all is most rough, but it will I think be admitted, that the designs of some are not inelegant. It may be mentioned here, that the large silver ornament worn on the head, somewhat resembling in size and shape a shield, and called a "chotee phool," is worn only by women of the "Arora" class, and is nowhere to be seen east of Shahpoor.

Political history of the district.

Divisible into three periods.

65. I now propose, as a fitting sequel to the foregoing account of the tribes inhabiting the district, to put together in a connected form such facts as have been gleaned from various sources, bearing on the political changes which have affected the same tract of country. These, for convenience of narrative, will be grouped into *three periods*. The first, that which preceded the downfall of the Moghul Empire; the second, the brief space occupied by the successive in-roads of the Affghans, followed by the rapid acquisition of power by the Sikhs; and the last, the period during which, by a happy admixture of boldness and artifice, the young leader of the Sookurchukeia Misl, succeeded in making himself master of the whole of the Punjab, from the banks of the Sutlej to the mountains of Sooleymân.

First period.

66. The first may be dismissed with a few words. A tract of country not naturally rich, and far removed from the high road between Hindoostan and the countries beyond its northern frontier, would not be the scene of events of sufficient magnitude to leave a lasting impress on the minds of the people, and hence tradition has preserved little that refers to so remote a period. All that is known is, that during the latter years of Mahomed Shah's reign the affairs of Bhera, and the surrounding country as far south as Shahpoor, were administered by Raja Salamat Rae, a Khutree of the Anund caste; * that Khoshab and its dependencies were under the management of Nawab Ahmed-yar Khan; that the tracts lying to the south of the district,

* The descendants of this man still reside in Bhera, and plume themselves on the greatness of their ancestor.

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and along the Chenab, formed part of the territory delegated to the charge of Maharajah Kowra Mul, then Governor of Mooltan; and that the "Thull" formed part of the jageer of the descendants of the Beloch founders of the two Deras.

67. To this succeeded a period of anarchy, during which many events worth recording took place. The weakness of the Moghul Government had both invited attack from without, and fostered insurrection within its limits; wave after wave of invasion for nearly thirty years poured down over the defenceless country, and in the intervals the Sikhs made good every opportunity afforded them by the weakness of the Government, to enrich themselves at the expense of their more peaceable neighbours. The remote position of this tract of country even, did not altogether save it from the calamities incident on such a state of things. In the year 1757 a force under Noorooddeen Bâmiziye was deputed by Ahmed Shah to assist his son Tymoor in repelling the Mahrattas, while he was himself engaged in subduing the rebellious chief of Kelât. The proceedings of this man may be taken as a type of the excesses committed by the invading armies, and some idea will be formed of the amount of misery caused by these inroads. Crossing the river Jhelum at Khoshab, Noorooddeen marched up the left bank of the river, and finding that the inhabitants would not pay the large ransoms demanded of them, he successively plundered and laid waste with fire and sword, three of the largest towns of the district. Two of these, Bhera and Mianee, rose again on their ruins, without however completely recovering the shock they had sustained; but of the third, Chuck Sânoo, the foundations alone are to be seen.

Second period one of anarchy.

Noorooddeen ravages the country.

68. About this time Nawab Ahmedyar Khan died, and Khoshab was added to the territory under the charge of Raja Salamut Rae. But the latter had not held it many years before he was treacherously put to death by Abbâs Khan, Khuttuck, who held possession of the Salt Range and Pind Dadun Khan, on the part of Ahmed Shah. Abbâs Khan then seized Bhera, but his attempt to make himself master of the surrounding country, was foiled by the determination shown by the widow of the murdered Governor, who shut herself up in the fort of Châwa, while her nephew, following her example, held out in his stronghold of Futtehgurh, close to Bhera itself. These events occurred in 1760, and before Abbâs Khan had time to subdue his opponents, he was himself thrown into prison as a revenue defaulter, when the former status was restored; Futteh

Raja Salamut Rae obtains charge of Khoshab, and is soon after put to death by Abbâs Khan Khuttuck;

Who is himself cast into prison.

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Sing obtaining possession of the tract previously held by his uncle, and Mahomed Mowaz Khan succeeding his father in the government of the country north of the Jhelum.

Ahmed Shah's last invasion and retreat.

The Sikhs over-run the country.

69. In the year 1867, Ahmed Shah made his last descent on the Punjab, and having failed in his attempt to recover the province, retired, hard pressed by the Sikhs, who finding themselves free from their once dreaded enemy rapidly made themselves masters of the greater part of the plains between the Indus and the Chenab. After the capture of Rhotas, the whole of the Salt Range was over-run and appropriated by the Sookurchukkeias under Chuttur Sing, while the Bhungees took possession of the tract of country between those hills and the Chenab, as far nearly as Saiwâl, parcelling it out among themselves after their usual fashion. The division of the portion comprised within this district was as follows: the Zails of Midh and Moosachoocha, as dependencies of Kadirabad, were retained as their own share by Gunda Sing and Jhunda Sing the leaders of the misl. Mianee was assigned to Tara Sing, and Bhera with Ahmedabad fell to the lot of Mân Sing, from whom they passed in 1769 to Dhunna Sing and Churut Sing, of the same confederacy.

Certain Mahomedan chiefs hold out against the Sikhs.

70. The Mahomedan Chieftains of Saiwâl, Mitta Tiwana, and Khoshab, had some time previously assumed independence, and, though hard pressed, were able generally to resist the encroachments of their new neighbours the Sikhs. South of the Jhelum, however, the Bhungees had succeeded in wresting from Mahomed Khan of Saiwâl the greater part of his possessions, but, after the Chief's death, his son Futtch Khan drove out the Sikhs, and by degrees established his authority over nearly the whole of the tract afterwards included in the Shahpoor Tahseel.

Anarchy still prevails.

71. But these changes brought no repose: might was the only test of right, and, in the absence of any general controlling authority, the country became a prey to the ambition of rival chiefs struggling for supremacy. It would be tedious and profitless to record all this petty warfare, I shall therefore confine myself to a mention of those occurrences only, from which permanent changes of possession resulted.

The Tiwana chiefs add to their possessions across the Jhelum.

72. Across the river Jhelum, the Tiwanas under Mullick Shere Khan made themselves masters of Noorpoor and the surrounding country, and after the death of Gool Jehanneah of Wurchha, succeeded in establishing a partial authority over the Awans along the base of the Salt-Range.

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They also wrested Sheikhôwal and several other villages on the right bank of the Jhelum from the Beloch Chief of Saiwâl. But the Mullick's attempt to reduce Khoshab was unsuccessful, for although Lâl Khan was killed in the defence of the town, the Tiwanas were driven off, and Jiaffer Khan, the deceased chieftain's son and successor, thenceforth remained in possession, until Runject Sing absorbed the Talooqua into the rest of his dominions.

73. South of the Jhelum, as described above, the Bhungees had possessed themselves of the whole Doab east of Shahpoor, while to the west of that place as far as Nihung, the country owned the authority of the Chief of Saiwâl. But in Shahpoor itself, a colony of Syuds, under Gholam Shah, established a semi-independent authority,* and this they were allowed to retain unmolested by their more powerful neighbours, owing doubtless to the reverence in which they were held as the descendants of a renowned saint. The remainder of the Doab, to the junction of the two rivers, was held by the Syâl Chiefs of Jhung, Izzut Buksh Rehân, a powerful zemindar of those parts, being their Deputy in Kâlôwal.

Status of possession south of that river.

The Shahpoor Syuds.

The Syâl Chiefs of Jhung.

74. Such was the status of possession when the Sookur Chukkeia confederacy under Maha Singh began to acquire the ascendancy, and the power of the Bhungees to decline. A map to illustrate this portion of the report has been prepared and will be found among the appendices.

Status of possession illustrated by a map.

75. The remainder of the history of the tracts of country comprised within the limits of this district, consists of nothing but a series of encroachments on the part of Maha Singh and of his renowned son, until the whole country was incorporated with the dominions of the latter, and these will best be described in the order in which they were made.

Third period. Encroachments of Maha Singh and his son.

76. By the deaths of Sirdars Jhunda Singh and Gunda Singh the Bhungee confederacy was left without a head; and Maha Singh, having joined his forces to those of the Kunheya misl, found no difficulty in making himself master of Kadirabad. By this event, which occurred in 1781, the Talooquas of Midh and Moosa fell into his hands, and two years after, he succeeded in taking Mianee and its dependencies from Tara Singh Bhungee.

Maha Singh takes Kadirabad.

And Mianee.

77. For some time now there was a pause in the tide of conquest. Ten years after the event last recorded, Maha

Bhera is taken in 1803.

* The descendants of Gholam Shah and his father Nuthoo Shah still hold the greater part of the land in Shahpoor and its neighbourhood.

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Singh died, leaving his son Runjeet Singh, a boy of thirteen years, and it was long before the latter had sufficiently established his authority round Lahore, to allow him to think of making conquests so far from the capital. But the process of annexation though slow was sure, and the wily young chief was never in want of a pretext for adding to his possessions. Bhera was coveted, and the reason assigned for interference in its affairs, was the tyranny of Jodh Singh, who had succeeded to the family conquests on the death of his father Dhumma Singh; with this plausible excuse, Runjeet Singh marched from Mianee in 1803, and having obtained possession of the fort by means of a stratagem, the person of Jodh Singh was secured, and the young Maharaja entered unopposed into possession of the country lying on both sides of the river as far as Jhawryan.

Saiwāl and
Khoshab fall
to Runjeet
Sing in 1809.

78. The next move was against the Beloch chiefs of Saiwāl and Khoshab. In 1804 Runjeet Singh had placed the former under contributions, and the tribute, which at first was almost nominal, was afterwards raised to twelve thousand rupees a year. The increased demand was not met with promptitude, and this furnished the Mahahrja with the pretext he was in search of. Accordingly, in 1809, a force was organized, and Runjeet Singh marched for Saiwāl. Having taken up a position at Māngowal, one march from that place, he sent Sirdar Uttar Singh to bring the Beloch chief to his presence; but Futtch Khan, taught by experience, suspected treachery, and excused himself from obeying the call: on receiving however the Sirdar's solemn assurance that no harm should befall the boy, he sent his son Lungur Khan with a handsome offering to the camp of the Maharaja. To divert suspicion Runjeet Singh received the boy very graciously, and having dismissed him with rich presents and the assurance of his continued friendship for his father, he retraced his steps and marched against Jiaffer Khan. Futtch Khan, falling into the trap laid for him, dismissed his forces to their homes, and before he had time to make fresh preparations for resistance, Runjeet Singh, flushed with his success before Khoshab, of which place he had made himself master after a siege of only eight days, suddenly appeared before Saiwāl and took the place by a coup-de-main. The chief was himself carried off a prisoner to Lahore, and the new conquered territory given in jageer to the heir apparent Khuruk Singh.

The remain-
der of the
country south

79. Thus fell Khoshab and Saiwāl, and at the same time the smaller possessions of the Shahpoor Syuds and of Boodh Singh Bhungee around Bukkhar, were added to the

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rapidly increasing territory under the sway of the Sikh Maharaja. In the year following, the Talooquas of Furooka and Kâlowl fell into his hands, together with the remainder of the country which had been subject to the authority of the Syal chiefs of Jhung.

of the Jhelum is annexed.

80. There remained now only the possessions of the Mullicks of Mittha Tiwana, and these too must share the common fate, for the ambition of the Sikh chief will be content with nothing less than the dominion of the whole of the land of the five rivers, and it is only the inhospitable nature of the country, and perhaps some remembrance of the friendship which formerly existed between its chief, Mullick Khan Mahomed, and the Maharaja's own father, that have so long warded off the impending stroke. It falls however at last. A well equipped force is despatched under Misser Dewan Chund in 1816. The Tiwana Mullick retires to Noorpoor, in the heart of the Thull, thinking that the scarcity of water and supplies may prevent the Sikh army from effecting its object. But all obstacles disappeared before the energy of the Sikh commander, who sinks wells as he advances, so that after a time the Tiwanas, finding resistance hopeless, abandon the place and take refuge with their old enemy the Nawab of Dera Ismael Khan, who has not the generosity, however, to forget their former rivalry in pity for the fallen fortunes of the Tiwana chiefs, but plunders and turns them out.

Mittha Tiwana and Noorpoor are taken in 1816.

81. After this, for nearly two years, Mullick Khan Mahomed and his sons wandered from place to place, subsisting on the charity of their neighbours, but finding this kind of life insupportable, they determined on making an attempt to recover their former possessions. An appeal made to their fellow clans-men was heartily responded to, and, armed with this irregular force, they appeared suddenly before the walls of their native town. The Sikh garrison, completely taken by surprise, abandoned the place and fled, and the Mullicks were once more masters of the land of their ancestors. Their triumph was however but short-lived; in the early part of 1818, the ousted governor returned with a strong force, and the Mullicks were a second time compelled to fly. The possessions of the Tiwana chiefs were then given in jagger to the famous Hurree Sing Nulwa, and were held by him till his death at Peshawur on the 30th April 1837.

The Mullicks recover possession of Mittha Tiwana.

But lose it again in 1818.

82. The whole of the expanse of country comprised within the limits of the Shahpoor district having now passed into the hands of Runjeet Sing, the record of political changes

Reasons for continuing the history of certain families.

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would here end, but before altogether leaving the subject it will perhaps be well to follow the fortunes of the chiefs of Mittha Tiwana and Saiwâl, as thereby light will be thrown on matters reserved for discussion in another part of this report.

The Tiwana chief tenders his submission and receives a jageer.

83. The attempt made by Khan Mahomed served to convince Runjeet Sing that it would be bad policy to drive the Tiwanas to desperation; when therefore the Mullick repaired to Lahore to tender his submission he was well received, and a liberal provision made for the support of the family. Villages on the left banks of the Jhelum, yielding ten thousand rupees a year, were assigned in jageer, and several of the chief's relations and dependants were taken into the service of the State.

No change takes place till the death of Hurree Sing.

84. Matters remained in this state, the elders living quietly on their jageer, while the younger members of the family with their contingents served with the army whenever called on to do so, till the death of Hurree Sing before Jumrood. In the interim the old Mullick, Khan Mahomed, and his elder son Ahmed-yar Khan had died, and Mullick Khodayar Khan, the younger son, with his nephew Kadir Buksh, were thus left as the representatives of the family. The former had had the good fortune, some time before, to place Raja Goolab Sing under a deep obligation, which resulted in a close friendship between them, and was the means of introducing the Mullick at Court, where, befriended by the Raja and the latter's brother, the prime Minister, Khodayar Khan and his son, the well known Futteh Khan, soon rose to positions of great favor.

When Futteh Khan obtains the farm of Mittha Tiwana and Noorpoor.

85. Futteh Khan was thus favorably situated when the news of the death of Hurree Sing reached Lahore. He lost no time in obtaining from his patron, in his own name, the farm of the ancestral Talooquas of Mittha Tiwana; and his father dying about the same time, he was left the acknowledged head of the tribe. From this time till the unprovoked aggressions of the Sikh army led to the first Sikh war, Futteh Khan took a prominent part in the politics of the country, and his love of intrigue found ample scope for indulgence, in the confusion into which the affairs of the State were thrown after the deaths, in rapid succession, of Runjeet Sing, his son, and grandson.

Futteh Khan retires to Bunnoo on the death of Dhyen Sing.

86. For some time Futteh Khan remained faithful to the side of his patron Raja Dhyen Sing, and reaped the reward of his attachment in ever increasing grants of territory in farm. But ere long the prime minister was assassinated,

and suspicion of complicity in the deed having fallen on the Mullick, he retired to Bunnoo to escape the vengeance of Raja Heera Sing, the son of the murdered man. Soon after, emerging from his retreat, the restless Mullick created a diversion in favor of Sirdar Jowahir Sing, to whose party he had now attached himself, by raising an insurrection in his native country and making himself master of Mittha Tiwana; but the expedition failed, and Futteh Khan, being ejected from the town by a Sikh force under Sirdar Mungul Sing, was forced to take refuge in Bhawalpoor, where he remained, till the death of Heera Sing in 1844 allowed him to come forth from his asylum.

He raises an insurrection and takes Mittha Tiwana.

But is ejected and retires to Bhawalpoor.

87. The rest of the Mullick's story is soon told. During Jowahir Sing's brief tenure of power, Futteh Khan enjoyed unbounded authority, the services of so unscrupulous a partisan being, in the existing state of affairs, beyond price. But bad times were coming for the Mullick. His patron was put to death by the army, and his enemies, headed by Rajas Teja Sing and Deena Nath, succeeded to power, and were not slow in gratifying their malice. He was called on to give an account of his stewardship, how he had expended the revenues of the large tracts of country of which he had held the management, and was brought in a defaulter to the extent of several lacs of rupees. Unable to meet this heavy demand, he was thrown into prison, where he remained till Lieutenant (now Sir Herbert) Edwardes, thinking he would be of use on the frontier, obtained his liberation and ultimately, when the Mooltan rebellion broke out, sent him to relieve Lieutenant Taylor of the charge of Bunnoo. The Sikh troops, soon after, broke out into open mutiny, and besieged Futteh Khan with his Mahomedan levies in the fort. The Mullick held out bravely, till the supply of water failed, when, seeing that the defence could be no longer protracted, he came out and was shot down while boldly challenging the best man of the Sikhs to meet him in single combat. Such was the fitting end to the career of a man who had in cold blood taken the lives of perhaps more of his fellow creatures than any other of his time.

The remainder of the Mullick's story.

His death.

88. When this occurred, Mullick Futteh Sher Khan, the son of Futteh Khan, and Mullick Sher Mahomed Khan, the son of the deceased Mullick's first cousin Kadir Buksh, were serving under Major Edwardes' orders before Mooltan. Both did good service; the former remaining with Major Edwardes, while the latter was detached to follow on the tracks of the Bunnoo force, then in full march to join

The services of his son and of Mullick Sher Mahomed Khan Tiwana.

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Notice of
Mullick Sahib
Khan Tiwana.

Sher Sing, and to endeavour to restore order in his native district. In the execution of this commission, Sher Mahomed Khan drove out the Sikh garrisons, and made himself master in rapid succession of the principal towns and strongholds in this part of the country, beginning with Mittha Tiwana and ending with Saiwâl; and added to his other services, by collecting a portion of the revenue and remitting it to Major Taylor, who was then employed in restoring order along the frontier. Nor must the services of Mullick Sahib Khan, the uncle of Sher Mahomed Khan, and a gallant member of this family, be forgotten. He too served with Major Edwardes' Irregulars, and was afterwards employed with Sirdar Lungur Khan of Saiwâl and others, in putting to flight the force headed by the rebel Bhai Maharaj Sing, and in reducing Chineot. In short, this family has always shown itself actively loyal in seasons of disturbance, and it is only in times of peace, when the naturally jealous dispositions of its members have full play, that their internal feuds render them a source of annoyance to all around them.

Disputes re-
garding suc-
cession to the
chiefship of
the tribe.

89. But peaceful times came, Mooltan fell, the Sikhs were finally overthrown at Goojrat, and the Punjab annexed. The Tiwana Mullicks had now time to look about them, they knew that they were to be rewarded, but the question was, who was to receive the lion's share as the head of the tribe? Sher Mahomed Khan claimed the turban, as the descendant of the elder branch, while Futteh Sher Khan rested his title on the acknowledged pre-eminence of his father Futteh Khan. The dispute was eventually settled through the mediation of friends. It was decided, that in point of rank they should be on an equality, one with the other, and that in all the material benefits, that might accrue to them as representatives of the tribe, both should share alike, and this agreement has since been acted on.

Rewards for
loyalty and
good service
conferred on
the Tiwana
Mullicks.

90 The Tiwana Mullicks have been well rewarded. Soon after annexation they preferred a claim to a fourth of the revenues of the Noorpoor and Mittha Tiwana Talooquas, and in consideration of their loyalty and good services the claim was admitted, and villages yielding 6,000 rupees a year were granted in jageer to each, to be held by them and their heirs in perpetuity. In addition to these grants, life pensions of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 3,240 were conferred respectively on Mullick Futteh Sher Khan and Sher Mahomed Khan; a pension of 480 rupees a year was, at the same time, granted to Mullick Sahib Khan. Lastly, for their services during

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the mutinies, the Mullicks obtained the following rewards : Mullicks Futteh Sher Khan and Sahib Khan, life jagheers of twelve hundred rupees each, and Mullick Sher Mahomed Khan one of six hundred rupees. To all these substantial gifts was annexed the much coveted and highly prized title of Khan Bahadoor.

91. It is now time to return to Sirdar Futteh Khan of Saiwāl, whom we left a prisoner at Lahore. In accordance with his usual custom, Runjeet Sing after a while released his prisoner, giving him a jagheer first in Jhung and then in Ahmedabad, near Pind Dadun Khan, stipulating however, that Futteh Khan was to remain at Court. But, after a life of independence, the Beloch chief was ill fitted to play the courtier, his proud spirit chafed at the confinement, and, like the Tiwana Mullick, he was tempted to strike a blow for independence. He applied to the Nawab of Munkeyra for assistance ; the request was favorably entertained, and the two chiefs, with their combined forces, actually started to attempt the recovery of Saiwāl. But fear of the consequences to himself of failure, overcame the Nawab's desire to assist his fellow clansman, and abandoning Futteh Khan to his fate, he precipitately retreated to his stronghold of Munkeyra. Futteh Khan, seeing that he had committed himself beyond power of recall, and that now he had nothing to hope for from Runjeet Sing, fled to Mooltan and soon after took refuge in Bhawalpoor, where he died in 1819.

Continuation
of the history
of the Saiwāl
chiefs.

92. Lungur Khan, the son of the deceased chief, a lad of fourteen years of age, was left a pensioner on the bounty of the Nawab, and remained at Bhawalpoor till 1822, when Runjeet Sing hearing, while on a visit at Mooltan, that Futteh Khan was dead, sent for Lungur Khan, and gave him a jagheer of two thousand rupees a year, with a personal allowance of three rupees a day. The jagheer was afterwards (in 1838) increased to three thousand rupees, and the allowance to five rupees a day. Lungur Khan with his men formed part of the Sikh contingent which, under Captain (afterwards Sir H.) Lawrence, accompanied General McCaskill's division in Pollock's advance on Cabool. Lungur Khan also served with distinction under Major Edwardes' orders during the Mooltan rebellion. After annexation, as a reward for these services, the family jagheer, valued at three thousand rupees a year, was released in perpetuity, and a life pension of twelve hundred rupees granted to Lungur Khan. This chief died in 1853, and was followed to his grave in 1862, by the eldest of his three sons, Mahomed Hayat Khan, a very

The same.

Sirdar Lungur Khan's services.

How rewarded.

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promising young man. The second son, Mobaruk Khan, is now the representative of the family.*

Historical
section com-
pleted.

The Soon
Talooqua
conferred in
jageer on Sir-
dar Goormookh
Sing Lambha.

At annex-
ation all but
the village of
Nowshera re-
sumed.

Chieftowns
and villages.

93. There is yet one set of circumstances to be referred to, and then the history of the principal families of this part of the country may be said to be complete. It will be remembered, that, on Ahmed Shah's final retirement, the Sookur-Chukkias, under the grand-father of Runjeet Sing, possessed themselves of the greater part of the Salt Range. The status in this respect remained undisturbed till 1827, when the members of this confederacy, among whom the conquered tract had been originally parcelled out, having fallen out among themselves, Runjeet Sing resumed their shares and divided them among his favorites; the Soon Talooqua falling to the share of Hurree Sing, by whom it was held till his death in 1837. On the occurrence of this event, it was given by the Maharaja to his old friend and playfellow, and afterwards one of the most successful of his generals, Sirdar Goormookh Sing Lambha, and it was one of the few gifts of which this brave old man had not been despoiled by the envy and hatred of the Jummoo family, when we took the country. The majority of the villages constituting the Talooqua were then resumed, but the estate of Nowshera, worth rather more than four thousand rupees a year, was released in perpetuity. Sirdar Goormookh Sing died in 1853, and was succeeded by his son Uttur Sing, the present representative of the family, who resides in the Goojrat district, where he holds other jageers.

94. The principal towns and villages of the district will be found arranged according to their sizes in the sub-joined table, to which I shall add a brief description of the more important :—

* On my arrival in the district in 1862 I found this young man nearly overwhelmed with a legacy of debt left by his improvident father, sunk in sloth, and immoderately addicted to indulgence in intoxicating liquors and drugs. It is a source of gratification to me to be able to record that I succeeded in rousing him to a sense of what was due to his position as head of one of the foremost families of the district, and in weaning him from habits which were undermining his health and ruining his intellect; at the same time arrangements were made with his creditors which in a few years will completely free him from debt. Since then, some addition has been made to Mobaruk Khan's income and position in the district, by his being elected to represent Saiwal, a town founded by one of his ancestors, and their head-quarters during the days of their independence.

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Number.	Names of towns and villages.	No. of Houses.			NUMBER OF PERSONS.						REMARKS.	
		Pucca.	Kuchcha.	Total.	Hindoo.			Musulman.				
					Agricultural.	Non-agricul- tural.	Total.	Agricultural.	Non-agricul- tural.	Total.		
1	Bhera, ...	3,764	1,292	5,056	1,208	4,735	5,943	2,033	5,997	8,030	13,973	The purely agricultural towns and villages in this statement will be easily distinguished by the larger proportion of their inhabitants being classed under the head of agriculturals, such as "Jubbee," "Nullee," &c.
2	Mianee, ...	1,766	1,041	2,807	286	3,144	3,430	637	1,938	2,575	6,005	
3	Salwal, ...	146	3,066	3,152	233	5,156	5,389	955	3,136	4,091	9,480	
4	Khoslah, ...	1,111	2,416	3,527	41	1,951	1,992	1,121	4,148	5,279	7,261	
5	Mitra Tiwana, ...	4	1,079	1,083	54	788	842	2,492	1,860	4,352	5,194	
6	Rhudra, ...	...	880	880	45	90	135	1,713	365	2,078	2,213
7	Shahpoor, ...	141	1,784	1,925	42	1,859	1,901	871	1,945	2,816	4,717	
8	Noorpoor, ...	...	649	649	26	1,692	1,718	253	1,907	1,460	3,178
9	Jubbee, ...	...	703	703	67	267	334	1,994	873	2,867	3,201
10	Jhawriyan, ...	4	1,456	1,460	...	749	749	1,245	1,073	2,318	3,067	
11	Bukkhur, ...	4	633	637	15	616	631	945	1,042	1,987	2,618	
12	Hudalee, ...	...	444	444	3	386	389	1,360	623	1,983	2,372
13	Girrot, ...	21	441	462	15	824	839	413	978	1,391	2,230	
14	Nowshera, ...	3	633	636	43	215	258	1,309	654	1,963	2,221	
15	Nullee,	538	538	17	184	203	1,174	724	1,898	2,999	
16	Midh, ...	16	1,142	1,158	72	952	1,024	319	622	941	1,965	

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Bhera, the
old town.

95. One of the most ancient, and at the same time the largest, towns is Bhera, situated on the left bank of the Jhelum river, thirty miles east of the civil station. The original town of this name stood on the right bank of the river, and in the days of the Emperor Baber must have been a place of considerable note, for, in his autobiography, when speaking of his designs on Hindoostan, he talks of the *countries* of Bhera, Khoshab, &c.* and again, in describing Hindoostan itself, he defines the limits of the empire as extending from *Bhera* to Behar.* Some idea of its size may also be gained from the fact that it paid so large a sum as two lacs of rupees † to purchase its safety, when the troops under Baber, disappointed of expected plunder in Bajour, arrived before it in 1519. Soon after this, says tradition, the adjoining hill tribes descended and destroyed the city.

The new
town.

96. The new town of Bhera was founded in the year 1540, ‡ during the reign of Sher Shah, near a spot where a holy man, calling himself Peer Kaya Nath, had for some time been established, and where his descendants are still residing round the tomb of their spiritual father.§ The place appears rapidly to have attained to its former size and importance, as it is one of the few places mentioned by name in the description of the Lahore Sooba given in the Aieen-i-Akburee, from which we also learn, that it was the centre of a mahal which paid a revenue of nearly five lacs of rupees, || and was one of the few spots in the whole empire where money was coined. After being plundered and laid waste by Noorooddeen, as mentioned before, the town was repopulated by the chiefs of the Bhungee misl, to whose share it fell in the division of the territory acquired by these Sikhs. Bhera is the best looking town in the district, being built of pucca bricks throughout; it is a place of considerable trade, but inferior in this respect to both Pind Dadun Khan and Khoshab. A large colony of Khojas and Pirachas, Mahomedan converts from Hindooism, are settled here, and carry on a traffic with Cabool and the countries beyond it. The ironsmiths of Bhera excel as

* See pages 255 and 310 of Erskine's translation.

† Four hundred thousand Shah-rookhis. A Shah-rookhi was worth about a shilling.

‡ The date of the founding of the town is commemorated in the phrase *شیر شاه بطویل شیر شاہ* which according to the "Abjad" system of notation gives 1540 as the Hijree year of the founding of the city.

§ The shrine known as the "Than (Sthân) Peeran," and is a place of great sanctity.

|| Page 290 of Gladwin's translation, the sum given is nearly twenty millions of dams, of which forty went to the rupee.

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stone-cutters, and in the manufacture of weapons and articles of cutlery. Bhera has also a reputation for its manufacture of felt, and soap, the former especially is made on a very large scale.

97. Mianee is said to have been founded by two Hindoo traders, Madhoo Dass and Shib Ram, during the reign of Shah Jehan. Like Bhera, the town grew and prospered till the decline of the Moghul monarchy, and like Bhera it was plundered by Noorooddeen; but it appears never to have entirely recovered this visitation, for the descendants of the families which then abandoned the place and took refuge in the adjoining villages, are still to be found in the latter. Mianee is an ill-built town of narrow lanes and bazaars, the upper stories of the houses and shops almost touching each other. A plan for remedying the inconveniences caused by over-crowding, by removing the old Sikh fort to the east of the town, and rendering a portion of the site available for dwelling houses, is being carried out, and when complete will be a great relief to the towns-people. This town is the great mart for the trade in salt and the commodities (sugar, rice, &c.) for which the mineral is exchanged. It cannot boast of any particular manufactures.

Mianee.

98. Saiwâl, if we may believe the prevailing tradition was founded by Gool Bahluk, one of the ancestors of the Beloch chiefs of this place, and received its name from the manager of the property, a man of the name of "Sâl" of the Jhummut caste. The town is badly built, and badly situated, being for the most part composed of a collection of mud and sun-dried brick structures, perched on a raised piece of ground, around which collects the surface drainage of the country for many miles. Great efforts are being made to provide means of exit for the mass of stagnant water which has hitherto rendered the town so unhealthy, and at the same time to reclaim sufficient space round the town to provide for the wants of the growing population. Judging from the results already obtained, there is reason to hope that ere long these objects may be realized, though at a considerable expenditure of money. Saiwâl carries on a brisk trade in cotton, grain, and glue, with Mooltan and Sukkur, and its traders are also largely mixed up, as bankers, in transactions with the agricultural population of the neighbourhood, indeed many cultivate largely on their own account. The only manufactures for which Saiwâl has a name are hard-ware, and turnery in ivory and wood.

Saiwâl.

99. There are no data for fixing with any degree of exactness the year of the founding of Khoshab, but it

Khoshab.

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Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

must be one of the oldest towns in this part of the Punjab, as it was a flourishing place in the time of Baber, and is frequently mentioned by him in his memoirs.* It is favorably situated on the right bank of the Jhelum, about eight miles from the civil station; very little however of the old town remains, for the last fifty years the river has been gradually cutting away its right bank at this spot, and with it have disappeared the gardens of the good Ahmedyar Khan,† the fort built by Jiaffer Khan Beloch, and nine-tenths of the older houses. Under the auspices of the Municipal Committee a new town is rapidly rising, which with its bazaar thirty feet wide, and more than half a mile in length, and its open streets, promises fair to surpass in beauty and commodiousness the former one, provided only that the plans for effecting these improvements be persistently and intelligently carried out, and funds do not fail. Khoshab is the great mart for the surplus grain of the Salt Range, and the tracts lying beyond those hills; its trade in this commodity and cotton, with Sukkhur, is very large. It is famous for its loongees; and its manufacture of coarse cloth for export to Afghanistan, gives employment to no less than six hundred weaving establishments.

Trade.

100. After what has just been written, and also in the paragraphs devoted to an account of the chief products of the district, a very few words will suffice to convey a general idea of the character of its trade. With the exceptions of opium and sujee, which are bought up by traders from Rawulpindee, Sealkote, Cashmere, and the eastern districts, and salt, which finds its way in every direction, all the surplus produce of the district, consisting of grains of all kinds but rice, cotton, wool, ghee, and saltpetre, is sent down the river in country boats to Mooltan and Sukkhur, and in exchange for these commodities sugar of every description, rice, English piece goods, the precious metals, iron, copper and zinc, are imported; the first two from Sealkote, Goordaspoor and the tracts comprised in the Jullundhur and Umballa divisions, and the remainder by the river route from Kurrachee and Sukkhur. In addition to the above, during the cold season, mujeeth (madder), dried fruits, spice, gold coins, &c., are brought down by travelling merchants from Afghanistan, and are bartered chiefly for coarse cloth, the produce of

* Indeed, from the manner in which Khoshab is mentioned, it is clear that the town was in existence when Baber's ancestor Tamerlane invaded Hindoostan, in which case Khoshab must be at least five hundred years old.

† The Nawab was governor of Khoshab in Mahomed Shah's time. His tomb, about a mile to the south west of the new town, is visited as a holy shrine.

the looms of Khoshab and Girôt, and, in a lesser degree, those of Bhera, Mianee and the other large towns of the district.

101. To trade naturally succeeds the subject of communications, one of the chief means by which its operations are developed. The district is now well provided with roads. The two most important lines are, (1) the road from Lahore to the frontier towns of Dera Ismail Khan and Bunnoo, traversing the civil station and the town of Khoshab; and (2) the line which, passing along the left bank of the Jhelum by the towns of Mianee, Bhera and Saiwâl, forms a link in the communications between Mooltan and Jhung, on the one side, and Pind Dadun Khan, Jhelum and Goojrat on the other. Both these are good fair-weather roads, and without any great expenditure of money the former might be rendered passable by troops all the year round, a consummation which good policy certainly demands, seeing that this is the most direct route from the seat of Government to the frontier. Inferior in importance to these, but still useful in a commercial point of view, are (1) the roads which open up the Salt Range, and connect Shahpoor and Khoshab with the rich grain producing tracts about Tallagung, (2) the lines joining Kadirabad and Ram Nuggur with Mianee and the salt mines of Pind Dadun Khan, and (3) the road between the Warchha mines and Khoshab; the traffic on all these is very large, and with regard to the bill roads (which have all been planned and constructed within the last four years) it may be added, that their existence is the greatest boon to the zemindars of the Salt Range, as enabling them to carry their grain to market on their own cattle, and permanently increasing its value. The other district roads are valuable only as aids to administration, and need no special notice. The whole system of communications can be seen at a glance in the several maps that are appended in illustration of this report.

Communica-
tions.

102. As a branch of the foregoing subject, it may not perhaps be out of place to show here what has been done to provide for the comfort of travellers. In 1862 the only shelter of any kind to be found along the roads consisted of two miserable serais, and the local committee of the district was officially condemned for its supineness in this matter. Since then systematic efforts have been made by it to free itself from the reproach of indifference to this important branch of its duties, and with such success that it may be confidently asserted that there are now few districts

Accommo-
dations for
travellers.

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Descriptive, Statistical and Historical.

in the Punjab where better arrangements exist for lessening the inconvenience of travel. On the two principal roads a commodious serai, containing a well and ample supplies of food, will be found at every stage of ten miles, and on the Lahore road, where it crosses the Bar, intermediate wells of fairly drinkable water at every five miles distance.

Local Funds. 103. It may be useful for reference to add here the estimated annual income under each heading of the several Local Funds, as follows :—

Estimated income.

1. Road fund,	.. 4,000	} liable to fluctuation.
2. Ferry fund,	.. 7,000	
3. Local agency fund,	.. 4,000	gradually decreasing.
4. Prison labor fund,	.. 720	fixed.
5. Municipal fund,	.. 20,000	liable to fluctuation.

The income of No. 3, consisting as it does entirely of the sale proceeds of nuzool land and buildings, must gradually lessen till it ceases altogether; but the decrease under this head will probably be more than made up by the slow but steady increase in the income of the other principal funds, and as the more expensive works required in the district have been completed, there will still be an abundance of money for the gradual execution of such necessary undertakings as raising and bridging the most important lines of roads, and the completion of the series of works begun for the embellishment and conservancy of the chief towns and villages.

Education. 104. The educational institutions of the district demand also a passing notice. These consist of (I) Government Schools, (II) Indigenous Establishments. The following statement gives the details of the former, with reference to which it may be remarked that, excepting the large towns of Bhera, Mianee, Khoshab and Saiwâl, and the Salt Range generally, there is little love of learning or appreciation of its benefits, in any part of the district; in the Bar the feeling in this respect is little short of aversion, and all attempts to overcome it have hitherto failed; the lawless habits of the population of this part, are doubtless sufficient of themselves to explain this, as, in the Salt Range, owing to the almost absolute freedom from crime of the people, and their strong religious instincts, the opposite effect is seen.

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Tehseel.	Zillah School.		Town Schools.		Village Schools.				Total.	Monthly Expen- diture.	Number of pupils.	Remarks.
					1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.				
Bhera, ...	1	1	...	1	2	4	5	14	Rs. 348	747	The number of the schools it will be seen is greatest in Khoshab. The larger number of pupils in Bhera is owing to the existence of the zillah school in Bhera, and a large town school in Mianee, the pupils at these two institutions numbering 268.	
Khoshab,	...	1	1	2	5	3	7	19	184	632		
Shahpoor,	...	2	2	1	...	2	7	14	212	501		
Total, ...	1	4	3	4	7	9	19	47	744	1,880		

105. Among the appendices will be found a statement exhibiting the state of indigenous education in the district. The character of this education is almost entirely religious; wherever there is a Musjid or Dhurmsala, there is to be found a school for teaching: in the former the Korân and other works relating to religion (Fiqua Hudees, &c.); and in the latter, "Jupjee," a portion of the "Grunth," and certain works on science and morals. The Moolla attached to the Musjid, and the Bhai of the Dhurmsala are paid chiefly in presents and fees; for instance, when a boy or girl has finished the reading of the Korân, the father gives the teacher a present, varying from five to thirty rupees, and a smaller sum on the completion of other less important works. In addition to these precarious offerings, the Moollas receive their "Wuzcefa" or daily bread, from all who can afford it, in the shape of small thick cakes, called "Gôgee." These men also officiate at births, marriages, and deaths, taking their fees according to the custom of the place. The same system, *mutatis mutandis*, is followed in the remuneration of the Dhurmsâlccâs. In none of these indigenous schools does the teacher receive a fixed salary, or regular fees from the parents of the pupils. The land shown in column 16 of the statement referred to, consists of endowments for the support of the Musjids, and the proceeds are appropriated by the "Imâm," as the resident Moolla is called.

Indigenous education.

106. This leads me to another subject, not altogether devoid of interest, both in a statistical point of view, and from the light it throws on the character and habits of feeling of the population. I speak of their superstitious

Shrines and fairs.

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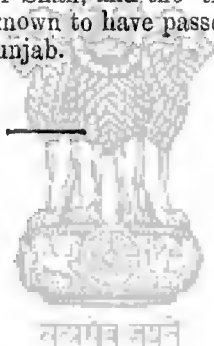
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reverence for the holy dead, their periodical pilgrimages to the tombs of saintly characters, and their belief in the efficacy of prayers offered up and vows registered on these occasions. The following table gives a list of the principal shrines, the dates on which large gatherings, or Melas as they are called, take place, and an approximate estimate of the numbers present at each of these half religious, half festive, meetings.

Number.	Locality where Shrine is situated or Fair held.	Name of Shrine.	Date and duration of fair or gathering.	Approximate attendance.		REMARKS.
				Pilgrims.	Idle Spectators.	
1	Toortee-pore, (6 miles south-west of Bhera.)	Peer Adhuni Sooltan.	13th, 14th and 15th of Sawan,	1,000	3,000	By far the most largely attended of these, it will be seen, are the fair of Shah Shums (the ancestor of the Synds of Shahpoor) and of Deāl Bhāwan at Girōt. The meeting at the Shrine of Shah Shums of Sheikh-pore is so far peculiar that the individuals composing it nearly all undergo bleeding at the hands of the Nais of Bhera, who possess the privilege of officiating on this occasion; the sick and ailing from all parts of the Punjab flock to this shrine at the appointed time, firmly convinced that the operation of blood-letting will, through the blessing of the presiding Saint, cure them of every evil.
2	Nubbee Shah (close to the above).	Shah Shahabul.	From 15th to 20th Asarh, ...	2,000	1,000	
3	Sheikhpore, (adjoins Bhera).	Shah Shums.	Two last Sundays in Cheyt and two first Sundays in Baisakh, ...	3,500	500	
4	Hazara (on the Banks of the Chenab).	Shah Shahamudee.	5th Baisakh, ...	4,000	1,000	
5	Bhera.	Peer Kayanath.	15th Phagoon, ...	1,300	200	
6	Shahpoor.	Shah Shums.	23rd, 24th & 25th of Cheyt, ...	5,000	10,000	
7	Dhreyma (10 miles south east of Civil Station).	Sooltan Hubeeb.	From 25th to end of Rumzan, ...	1,000	4,000	
8	Nihung (10 miles south of Saiwāl).	Punj Peer.	1st Magh, ...	1,000	4,000	
9	Peer Subz, (6 miles north of Saiwāl).	Peer Subz.	13th Cheyt, ...	500	2,500	
10	Jehaneea Shah, (close to Nihang).	Jehaneea Shah.	6th and 7th Asarh,	500	2,500	
11	Girōt.	Deāl Bhāwan.	30th Cheyt and 1st Baisakh, ...	4,000	8,000	
12	Khooshab.	Hafiz Deewan.	20th Cheyt, ...	2,000	6,000	

107. I shall close this part of the report with a few words on the antiquities of the district. They are but few, a list of all that deserve the name will be found in appendix No. V. Of these by far the most interesting are the ruins at Umb, of what was probably a Boodhist temple, enclosed within a fort built on the summit of a hill, at the foot of which, a clear stream of water issues from a passage, lined with masonry, constructed evidently by the same hands which raised the imposing structure above. The ruins of a massive masonry dam at the entrance of the Kutha pass, evidently built to economize and distribute the waters of this torrent, are suggestive of what might be done again with advantage. This and two large "bâclees" at Bola and Wân Kyla are attributed to Sher Shah, and the tradition is not improbably true, as he is known to have passed a great part of his brief reign in the Punjab.

Antiquities.



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THE SETTLEMENT.

108. I now come to the second division of this report, an account of the manner in which the revision of the land revenue (including grazing tax) has been effected, with all the other incidents of what is technically known as a settlement.

The Settlement the work of two officers.

109. It will be as well, perhaps, to remind the reader here, that the work has been chiefly done by two officers, at different periods, and to refer him to the introduction, where he will learn the exact share taken by each.*

Sketch of operations under Mr. Ouseley.

110. Regular settlement operations were commenced in 1854, and vigorously prosecuted till the breaking out of the mutinies in 1857, when the establishments were much reduced and the business in this department restricted greatly. This state of affairs continued till the middle of the following year, when attention was again seriously turned to the subject, and from this time forth, until Mr. Ouseley's departure on furlough to Europe, in March 1860, the work was pushed on with energy. By that time the settlement of the three Tehseels of Bhera, Kaloowāl and Saiwāl may be said to have been completed, with the exception of the judicial business arising out of the attestation of the khuteonees of the Trans-Jhelum Talooqs of the Shahpoor Tahseel (the assessment of which Mr. Ouseley had announced only a month or two before his departure) and the completion of the record of rights of the same tract.

First portion of the work completed in 1860-61.

111. The work left unfinished by Mr. Ouseley was completed by Extra Assistant Commissioner Pundit Motee Lal, but no attempt was made to put the finishing stroke to the settlement, by extending its operations to the tracts of country transferred to this district from the districts of Leia and Jhelum, till July 1862, when this duty was entrusted to me, with instructions to report also on Mr. Ouseley's share of our joint task.

Arrangement of this part of the report.

112. It was necessary to premise the few foregoing observations to render clear what is about to follow; and I am now in a position to explain that, in giving effect to the latter part of my instructions, I shall avail myself largely of a memorandum, explanatory of the principles on which his settlement was made, kindly furnished by Mr. Ouseley at my request. The following extract refers to the assessment; it will be followed by an account of my own operations for completing the revision of the assessment of the district:

* See para 7 of the introduction and the note at foot of the page.

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after which will come the remainder of Mr. Ouseley's memo, wherein he treats of the judicial work of the settlement and the formation of the record of rights and liabilities; and the report will close with such additional remarks as I may have to make on the same subjects, explanatory, both of the work carried on under my own orders, and of that supervised by Mr. Ouseley. In following out this programme, I shall endeavour to supply such deficiencies in the memorandum as were unavoidable, owing to the distance from all sources of information at which it was written, and the time which has elapsed since the matters with which it deals have been disposed of.

FIRST EXTRACT FROM MR. OUSELEY'S MEMORANDUM.

113. "Previous to the establishment of the Lahore residency, that portion of the Jutch-Doab, in which the "Shahpoor district is situated, used to be farmed out by the "Sikh Durbar to different Kardars of more or less note. "Golab Sing; subsequently the Maharajah of Kashmere, for "some years held the lease of Bhera. Khuruck Sing, afterwards for a short time Maharajah of the Punjab, used to have "the direct charge of the Saiwal Tahseel, and Deewan Sawun "Mull of Mooltan sometimes took the farm of the Kaloowāl "Tahseel. These magnates were succeeded, in the years "immediately preceding the Suttlej campaign, by men of less "note, who had smaller tracts of country entrusted to them. "But both they and their predecessors, as a rule, collected "their rents by 'buttai,' (or division of the harvest when "reaped and thrashed), or by 'kunkoot,' (appraisement of "the standing crops), or by under-leasing a few villages, here "and there, for a certain cash payment to some person "possessing a little local importance, who again made his own "arrangements for collecting his rents according to one of the "above described modes. As the principal lessee held his "lease subject to renewal annually, of course any contracts "entered into by him were only for a similar period.

Revenue administration under Sikh Government.

Farmers collected their rents by "buttai" or "kunkoot."

114. "The result of these arrangements was, that the "officers who first attempted to introduce the system by "which the collection of the revenue was made in cash, had "very little reliable data to guide them.

Hence difficulty experienced in fixing cash assessment at annexation.

115. "It is true, that the archives of the Durbar could "furnish them with the gross amount which used to be "received into the Sikh treasury during a certain year for a "certain tract of country; and so, again, the accounts rendered "annually by the subordinate contractors seemed to show

The Sikh Durbar records uncertain guides.

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"in detail the proportions in which the payments were to be credited to each village. But these accounts purported to show payments on account of revenue, and were no clue to the gross rental of each village; and when the Settlement Officer came to try and verify the accounts, by ascertaining what portion of the Government revenue had been paid by each proprietor or cultivator, the untrustworthy nature of the figures, purporting to give the Government demand in its money value, became apparent,—for it transpired, that the rent of the village was taken either by 'buttai,' or 'kunkoot,' the rate, by which individuals paid varying in the same village from 50 to 25 per cent of the gross output. In very few cases was I able to procure trustworthy papers, exhibiting these payments in kind, partly because it was not the custom to keep them, and partly, when they did happen to have been preserved, because the possessors were afraid to show them.

Argument continued.

116. "The grain thus collected was often made over by the sub-lessee, who had agreed to pay so much for the year's revenue of a village, to the Kardar at something under its market value. The Kardar again often received credit in the Durbar Treasury for the payment in cash of a certain sum on account of one or more villages, by complying with an order to pay certain troops stationed in the neighbourhood, their arrears of pay for a certain number of months. As these troops had been living on credit, the Kardar settled with them, by giving so much in grain to the bunnias to whom the troops were indebted for food, and so much to the troops in cash.

117. "Seeing that the value of grain is continually fluctuating, it is obvious that when the payments made in that commodity travelled round so large a circle, the figures, which in the Sikh record exhibited the revenue of a village in money, were not of much assistance to the officer who had eventually to assess the revenue.

No other data available.

118. "However, when the residency was first established, no better data than these 'jumma bundecs,' as they were called by the Sikh Durbar, were procurable; and, as it was absolutely necessary that the land revenue demand should be fixed for the current year, English officers were deputed all over the country, to assess the revenue of each village separately. The Government demand was to be fixed in cash, and each village was invited to enter into an engagement for a period of three years. The assessments were to be based on the Sikh returns, on which a reduction

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" of twenty per cent was to be allowed. Of course, if particular circumstances seemed to require a large reduction, the English officers had the power to afford it.

119. " The term of this settlement expired in the Shahpoor district with the Sikh year Sumbut 1907, corresponding with A. D. 1850. Term of 1st summary settlement.

120. " Mr. Lewis Bowring, an officer who produced a very favorable impression on the people of Shahpoor, and whose name was constantly in their mouths for years after his connection with the district ceased, fixed the assessments of the Bhera and Saiwâl portions of the district. The Kaloowâl portion was assessed I believe by Mr. Cocks, that gentleman's name at least was on the puttahs granted to the zemindars, but I am under the impression that he did not personally visit the district, and that owing to press of work he had to fix his assessments at Lahore.* Officers by whom made.

121. " The Government demand was I believe paid in full for Sumbuts 1904 and 1905, A. D. 1848 and 1849. The collections were still made from individuals in kind, but they were paid during the former year into the Sikh, and during the latter year into the English treasury in cash. In 1850 a few balances accrued, but still, owing to the high price of grain, and to other causes which have been fully explained in other settlement reports bearing on the same period, the zemindars were able to pay the greater part of the Government demand during that year, and also during the succeeding year. But towards the close of 1851, a great cry of distress arose throughout the district, and as the period of the settlement made in Sumbut 1904 had expired with the year Sumbut 1907, (A. D. 1850), it was considered absolutely necessary that a revision of the demand should be at once effected. For two years collections made without difficulty.
In the third year balances arise.
And by the close of fourth year much distress felt.

122. " As Major Birch, the Deputy Commissioner at the time, had no assistant, and the necessity was pressing, Mr. E. Thornton, the Commissioner, determined to revise the demand for the Kaloowâl Tahseel, where the distress was the greatest. He accordingly, in the course of his tour, went to the village of Mângnee in that Tahseel, and reduced the Government demand from one lac to 75,000 rupces. This assessment was commenced and finished in three days, and The Commissioner revises the assessments of the Kaloowâl Tahseel.

* I find on enquiry from the zemindars that although the assessments were made by Mr. Cocks at Lahore, that gentleman had previously visited the district and made himself personally acquainted with its condition. W. G. D.

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"was, humanly speaking, the means of speedily restoring
"an almost ruined and deserted tract of country to a
"flourishing condition.

Mr. Onseley
those of Bhera
and Saiwāl.

123. "Early in 1852, I was appointed as assistant to
"the district, and was ordered to revise the Government de-
"mand in the Saiwāl and Bhera Tahseels. My instructions
"were, to make the settlement for the years 1851-52, or
"until such time when the regular settlement demand should
"be determined; that as the year 1851 had expired, any in-
"crease in the Government demand was to be collected from
"1852 only, whereas any remission that was considered
"necessary was to have retrospective effect; I was also told
"to have the revision completed in time for the first rubbee
"instalment.

Results of
the revisions.

124. "Having reported at the time, on this settle-
"ment and also on the revision made by me of the Kaloowāl
"Tahseel demand in 1853, I need say nothing further now of
"the difficulties which had to be overcome. It will be suffi-
"cient, if I remark that the Government demand throughout
"the district was by these operations reduced from Rs.
"3,42,492 to Rs. 2,67,455,* that this demand was collected
"without difficulty until the regular settlement assessment
"was determined, and that, when that assessment was
"determined, it was found that so far from a reduction on
"the summary settlement demand being necessary an in-
"crease on it could be taken."

Regular
Settlement
operations
commenced.

125. "In 1854 regular settlement operations were
"commenced in Shahpoor, under the direct management of
"Extra Assistant Mahomed Buksh, subordinate to the con-
"trol of Mr. Temple, the Deputy Commissioner and Settle-

* The results of the three summary settlements are shown in the following table:—

Number.	Tahseel.	Jumma of 1st summa- ry settle- ment.	Jumma of 2nd summa- ry settle- ment.	Jumma of 3rd summa- ry settle- ment.	De- crease.	Remarks.
1	Bhera, ...	1,25,164	1,14,911	1,07,579	17,585	The revenue of the Khoshab and Ferooka Talooquas, transferred to Shahpoor from the districts of Leia and Jung in the years 1853 and 1854, and added to the Saiwāl Tahseel, have been excluded, so as not to disturb the comparison.
2	Saiwāl, ...	1,18,350	99,945	96,138	22,212	
3	Kaloowāl,	98,978	75,617	63,738	35,240	
	Total, ...	3,42,492	2,90,503	2,67,455	75,037	

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"ment Officer of Goojrat. Subsequently, I was placed
 "in charge, and Mr. G. Thomson, Extra Assistant Commis-
 "sioner, was added to the strength of the Settlement Staff.
 "I had however still to perform my duties as Assistant
 "Commissioner, and before long almost the whole of the
 "revenue work of the district, comprising all the judicial
 "work, was transferred to the Settlement department.

126. "The first step was the demarcation of bounda-
 "ries. This measure was carried out in the cultivated
 "portions of the district (that is to say, for a space averaging
 "in breadth perhaps about 7 or 8 miles from the banks of
 "the Jhelum and Chenâb) according to the principles de-
 "fined in the "Directions to Settlement Officers." As no
 "revenue survey had ever taken place, and this was the first
 "attempt to define boundaries, and as the people are
 "very litigious, there were very numerous disputes, the
 "great majority of which were settled by Judicial officers
 "in person. In those parts of the district under notice,
 "the boundaries were erected without more expense than
 "the first introduction of a measure of this nature, and the
 "number of disputes to which it necessarily gave rise might
 "be reasonably expected to entail. Water was always
 "procurable, and labor, so the earthen pillars 'boorjees'
 "and the masonry tri-junction points 'sibhuddas' were
 "erected without undue expenditure. I mention this,
 "because the item for demarcation of boundaries is a VERY
 "HEAVY one in the costs of the settlement, but the heavy
 "expense arose in the marking out of village boundaries in
 "the Bar, or small tree jungle, situated in the centre of the
 "Doâb between the Chenâb and Jhelum, and in the 'Thull'
 "or sandy desert on the west side of the Jhelum, which
 "was transferred from Leia to Shahpoor.

Demarcation
 of boundaries.

Erected with-
 out trouble in
 the well culti-
 vated tracts.

127. "The demarcation of boundaries in the Bar
 "jungle gave great trouble, not only on account of the
 "difficulty of procuring labor and water in that thinly
 "populated and arid tract of country, but owing to the pre-
 "posterous claims set up by the turbulent inhabitants of
 "the petty villages or hamlets which are to be found in it,
 "generally at considerable distances from each other.

But attend-
 ed with great
 difficulties in
 the Bar.

128. "Prior to annexation no regular recognized
 "village boundaries existed in the Bar jungle. The tract
 "so called, may be described as some 60 miles in length,
 "stretching from the borders of Goojrat to the Feroke
 "ilaqua (which formerly belonged to Jhung), and about 40
 "miles broad at its widest part. Throughout this expanse,
 "villages inhabited by various Mahomedan tribes, whose

General des-
 cription of the
 Bar.

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" chief wealth consisted in cattle, were to be found, very
 " often, at distances of 10 to 12 miles apart from one
 " another. Very little agriculture, and a good deal of cattle-
 " lifting, were practised by the denizens of this dry and un-
 " fertile wilderness.

Evidences of
 former pros-
 perity.

Depression
 in the water-
 level cause of
 its gradual de-
 population.

129. " Judging from the numerous mounds of earth
 " covered by loose bricks, and brittle fragments of what
 " once apparently were earthen vessels, it seems reasonable
 " to believe that at one time the Bar jungle was thickly
 " populated.* At some remote period, the date of which
 " I could never satisfactorily ascertain, the depth at which
 " water was to be found increased considerably. There are
 " now spots in the Bar, where the brick-work of old wells
 " does not exceed 25 feet, and now, in the same places water
 " cannot be obtained within 60 feet of the surface. But the
 " increased depth at which water was to be met with, was not
 " the only hardship against which the residents of the Bar
 " had to contend; the water when found, often proved so
 " brackish that it could not be used by man or beast. There
 " is a tract now, some 18 miles in length, between the
 " 'Masur' well and Mangnee, on the straight road to Lahore,
 " where sweet water is not to be found.† Consequent on
 " this failure of the chief source of fertility in this country, the
 " Bar became comparatively deserted, and villages remained
 " only in those spots where sweet water was procurable.

* There are no less than two hundred and seventy of these mounds scattered about the "Bar." It would be an interesting study for one, who had the time and taste for the enquiry, to endeavour by internal and other evidence, approximately to fix the period when all the prosperity of which these remains are indications existed. There is little doubt that the desertion of these old sites was due to gradual subsidence of the water level, as mentioned in the text. But it is not so clear when and how this occurred. Local tradition points to the time of Akbur as the period of greatest prosperity, and a similar tradition exists regarding the same state of things in the adjoining district of Goojranwalla. On the other hand, the appearance of the mounds themselves, speaks of a more remote period, and it is well known that in the time of the Greeks the whole country was richly cultivated, the author of the history of Alexander's expedition speaking of it as "teeming with population." One of the more immediate and recent causes of the depression of the water level, may be the changes which are known to have taken place in the course of the rivers Jehlum and Chenab, both having flowed, speaking with reference to this "Doab," much further inland than they now do, but this would only help to explain the effect noticed in its relation to this district, whereas the same phenomenon has been observed in many other parts of the Punjab. It is probable therefore that a *general depression* in the water level has taken place throughout the province, and if so the fact adds one more to the list of proofs already obtained that volcanic and other agencies are working great and constant changes in the relative levels of land and water in all parts of the globe. W. G. D.

† A new line has lately been adopted and the road made to deviate to the south, passing through Dhreyma and Mitla Luk, whereby this water difficulty has been overcome. W. G. D.

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130. "Owing partly to the scarcity of well water, and to the dearth of rain, which is a characteristic of the Shah-poor climate, and to the presence of trees and shrubs, on which camels feed, and to there being during some months of the year (if the fall of rain has been at all favorable) an abundance of grass,—the Bar people carried on very little agriculture, but kept up large flocks and herds.

And conversion into pasture grounds for cattle.

131. "As the villages were few and far apart, disputes about grazing ground were of rare occurrence. There was land enough for all. But sometimes a dispute took place about the right of watering cattle at a certain pond or natural tank. Two villages situated a dozen miles apart, would perhaps in a season of drought, both assert a claim to water their cattle at a tank equidistant between their villages. In the endeavour to enforce their fancied rights, a fight would ensue, and the victors would probably build a few grass huts for themselves and their cattle, in which they would reside for a couple of months and then desert the place for some better locality.

Disputes relating to right to use of water more common than claims to possession of land.

132. "The defeated party of one year often turned the tables on their adversaries in the year after, and took possession of the disputed water. Might was right, in the Bar, and beyond actual possession, there was no test by which to judge as to what lands ought to be considered as within the boundaries of any particular village.

Actual possession the only test of right.

133. "When regular settlement operations commenced, the country having been annexed some five years, and the people having had such preparatory instruction as two summary settlements could afford, the Bar zemindars, knowing our respect for prescriptive rights, determined to divide the Bar jungle among themselves. They accordingly established little out-posts, with a few men and a few head of cattle in each of them, at distances of several miles round the parent village, and proposed to encircle them all in one ring-fence which was to represent their village boundary. Had this arrangement been permitted, the result would have been, that the whole Bar jungle, which may hereafter become valuable property to the State, would have been appropriated by a few thousand cattle grazers, whose annual contribution of revenue does not in the aggregate exceed 40,000 rupees.*

Clever expedients resorted to by the people to obtain large grazing grounds.

134. "To show how preposterous were some of the claims raised, I may mention that the present area of

Instance of exaggerated claim.

* The actual sum is 33,472 rupees. W. G. D.

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"Mouza Luk, after converting large tracts (originally included by the zemindars in their boundary) into Government rukhs, still amounts to 40,000 acres.

The principle for defining boundaries determined on.

135. "After much deliberation, it was arranged, with the sanction of Mr. E. Thornton the Commissioner, that the demarcation of boundaries in the Bar, should be carried out on the same principle as had been adopted in Goojranwala. The villages were called on to state how many head of cattle they possessed, and they were allowed a certain quantity of waste land (I think four acres) per head.

How applied in practice.

136. "The quantity of land that each village was entitled to being once settled, every effort was made to draw out boundaries with a due regard to existing possession, and where possession did not exist to prevent it, the village arca was made of as compact a shape as was feasible.

The work obstructed by the Bar men.

137. "But so averse were the Bar men to this arrangement, that they threw every obstacle in the way of the persons employed for the demarcation of their boundaries, and the native establishments were unable, during the months of June, July and August, to traverse the long distances, and to endure the great exposure to heat and thirst, which this duty required; the work therefore progressed slowly, had often to be done twice and thrice over, and cost a great deal of money.

Putwarees' circles.

138. "While the Hudbust operations were still in progress, the 'Hulkabundee,' or arrangement of villages into circles for putwarees, was carried out. This prepared us to commence the measurements.

Error of employing strangers in the measurements.

139. "And here I beg to be allowed to observe, that no greater error can be committed in the course of a settlement, than to have villages measured by any one except the village putwaree.

Reasons for preferring the village putwaree.

140. "If he is acquainted with the villages to which he has been appointed, so much the better; even if he is a stupid man, his local knowledge will save him from falling into errors which the sharpest Ameen is unable always to guard against.

141. "But even if he is a man totally unacquainted with the village, it is better to have all the village papers, shujrah, khusra, khuteonee and khewut, prepared by one man or by two men, putwarees of neighbouring circles, than to have them drawn up by different persons.

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142. "Under the one system responsibility can be enforced. Under the other it cannot. The putwaree knows that he will have to work the papers he is preparing, that he will have to explain them constantly in Court, and be ever liable to be called to account for any wilful mistakes, which may at any time come to light in the papers which he prepared; but when papers are prepared, some by one and some by another person, and then handed over to the putwaree at the completion of the settlement, the result is always unsatisfactory. In the first place, the putwaree does not understand the papers, and when an error is discovered, it transpires that the man who made the wrong entry in the khusra, or who understated the cultivated area, has left the Punjab for Oudh, whilst the person who made the false entry regarding the ownership of a certain field, was the putwaree of a village some sixty miles away, and could not be expected to know who was, and who was not, the proprietor.

143. "In appointing the putwarees, care was taken to select men who could read and write "Oordoo," and rupees 100 per annum was as a rule fixed as their minimum salary.* This was levied by a rate of three (3) per cent. on *malgoowaree*. It would have been better if this three per cent had been calculated on the net assets of the village.

Putwarees
how selected,
and the rate
of remunera-
tion fixed.

144. "In the Bhera tahseel the work of measurement was commenced by collecting all the putwarees at one corner of the tahseel. They were told off into pairs: over every three measuring parties, was an ahilkar, on Rs. 15 per month; over every three ahilkars a moonserim on Rs. 30; and over the whole tahseel a sudder moonserim on Rs. 60 per mensem. But after a while the system not being found to answer, the putwarees of two neighbouring circles were made to measure the villages in their own circles, and the result, I am confident, is that as much accuracy was secured as could be expected, when the nature of the agency, the state of ignorance of the agricultural population, and the novelty of the work to be executed, are taken into consideration. The supervising agency continued on the scale which I have just described.

Measure-
ments how
conducted.

* There are 76 putwarees in the two tahseels of Bhera and Shahpoor, their salaries amount altogether to 8143 rupees, or an average of 107 rupees to each. The highest pay received by any one putwaree is 154 rupees, and the lowest rupees 85. W. G. D.

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145. "The survey and measurement were of course made on the plane table.*

The tests to which they were subjected in the field.

146. "Every ahilkar was obliged to test a certain number of fields in each village, and to file with the 'khusrah' the list of these fields, and all particulars regarding them, which he had ascertained by his own measurement and enquiry, and each moonserim had to test the 'purtal' lists furnished by the ahilkars. In addition to this, the officers in charge of settlement operations, frequently drew a line across the shujrah, and made the moonserim test the entries regarding each field traversed by that line; subsequently, the supervising officer tested some of these fields on the spot, and so ascertained if the moonserim's 'purtal' was *bonâ fide* or otherwise.

The results are collated.

147. "As soon as the villages were measured, the total area, showing in detail the amount of each sort of land, whether cultivated, uncultivated, fit for cultivation but lying waste for a short or long period, sterile, &c. &c. was drawn up, and forwarded to me. And now I was able to subject them to a test which is of great value, and which is only available in districts where the revenue and unprofessional survey are carried on simultaneously.

With the revenue survey maps.

148. "I compared my shujrahs and totals with the revenue maps and totals, which I had got from the surveyor direct, and which I never allowed any one else to see until I had made my comparison. Where I found the two agree, or no greater discrepancy to exist than three or four per cent in jungle land, I passed the putwarce's work.

Other tests applied to ensure accuracy.

149. "But the above was merely a general test, a detailed test was carried out in the vernacular office, by what is called the 'muhâz meelân,' which operation consists in comparing each entry in the khusrah, to ascertain if the sides constituting the common boundaries between adjoining fields correspond. The entry respecting the east side of one field, was compared with the corresponding entry regarding the west side of the adjoining field, and so on for each side of every field.

* The shujras were drawn to a scale of 50 kurms to the inch in the Bhera pergunnah, and 60 kurms to the inch in the Shahpoor pergunnah. The latter, equivalent to 5 chains, is the more convenient as being exactly four times the scale on which the revenue survey village maps are executed. I cannot refrain from remarking here on the beautiful finish of these maps, and as far as I have had occasion to examine them, their correctness. W. G. D.

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150. "After this, the 'suffawar mizans' and the 'jins-war' totals having been prepared, the assessment statistics, materials for which were collected during the progress of the measurements, were thrown into a tabular form, a specimen of which can be found in the appendices to this report. I need only state here, that in addition to the usual details regarding area and means of irrigation, it also contained particulars regarding the number of ploughs, and of houses in each village.

Assessment statistics how prepared.

151. "Before stating the considerations which chiefly guided me in making my assessments, I will allude to certain points to which I believe considerable importance is attached under certain circumstances, and my disregard of which requires therefore some explanation.

152. "First as regards soils. Having at that time been between four and five years in the district, during which period I had been twice employed in revising the summary settlement, and had had almost all the revenue work of the district placed in my hands, I ascertained that the people recognized as a rule no differences of soil except such as were based on the existence or otherwise of irrigation, and on the capacity which each kind of soil possessed of retaining water for a longer or shorter period.

Popular classification of soils.

153. "This mode of distinction was in vogue both in a general way of speaking, and in making more detailed comparisons. Thus, the popular opinion divided the whole land of the district, as regarded its agricultural capabilities, into three great classes, viz. 'hitar' or the low lands liable to the inundations of the rivers; 'ootâr,' or the high land in the 'Bar' jungle, where the water was from 60 to 90 feet from the surface; and 'nukka,' or that strip of land situated between the very low and the very high land.

The recognized main divisions.

"Hitar."

"Ootâr."

154. "So again in separate villages, the lands were classed as either 'sailaba' land, subject to the inundations of the river, 'chahee' land, that dependent on wells for its irrigation, and 'baranee,' or land on which the crop was dependent on the fall of rain.

Sub-divided into "sailaba" "chahee" "baranee."

155. "Knowing that this was the case, I thought that if the distinctions of soil then in fashion amongst Ameens, and native settlement agency in general, were allowed to be introduced amongst people who did not understand them, and were not influenced in their own transactions by them, that I should be opening the door

Reasons for adopting this classification.

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“for a good deal of petty chicanery, and fraud. Consequently, I had the lands entered in the ‘khusrah’ and ‘assessment papers, only under the heads of ‘sailaba,’ ‘chahee’ and ‘baranee.’ The chahee was divided into ‘two classes ‘chahee sailaba,’ *i. e.* land irrigated by wells, ‘but also having the advantage of being subject to inundations from the river; and, ‘chahee khâlus,’ or land ‘irrigated *only* from wells.

Produce
jummas.

156. “I must now refer to the non-preparation of what are called ‘jinswar,’ or produce jummas.

Mode of ob-
taining them
in vogue.

157. “These papers are, I believe, prepared by multiplying a certain number of acres by a certain number of maunds of grain or other produce of the soil, and then converting the total so obtained into its equivalent money value at the average market rate of the produce, spread over a certain number of years.

Reasons for
abandoning
this test.

158. “But when it is remembered that, however careful may be the scrutiny and calculation on which the average produce of an acre of ground is fixed, still it is quite possible that the result thus obtained is not quite correct, that it is in all probability a few seers over or under the proper mark, that it is not improbably as much as one-sixth or one-eighth wide of the mark, and that this error, which appears trifling when viewed in connection with one acre, swells to very great and serious error when it is multiplied by thousands of acres—and that this grave error is likely to be still further magnified, when it is multiplied by a sum professing to represent the average price of a certain article over a period of say 20 years, and which sum it is more than probable is an anna or two in the rupee wide of what it ought to be, I think it will be allowed that the preparation of produce jummas involves more trouble than they are worth, and is apt to effect more harm than good.

Difficulty of
obtaining reli-
able datu.

Argument
contained.

159. “As far as my experience extends, I have found that the Ameens very soon understand the amount which produce jummas ought to exhibit, and that these papers are more cooked than any other that are turned out during the course of the settlement.

The impor-
tance of ascer-
taining aver-
age produce of
land admitted.

160. “But although I did not allow these elaborate and voluminous calculations, which are supposed to represent the net assets of a village in kind, to be drawn up, I was not unmindful of the necessity of ascertaining, as nearly as I could, the probable out-turn of an acre of

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"good, bad, and middling land. I tried to attain this end, both by incessant verbal enquiries, and by actual experiment. It would appear that in a district where the system of 'kunkoot' was well understood by most of the village 'dhurwaeis,' although it is condemned on religious grounds by the stricter Mahomedans, that I ought to have been able to obtain, easily, tolerably accurate information as to the average out-turn of each description of soil; yet it was not so, natives are very nervous regarding the subject of such enquiries, and I could only get vague answers, the result of which was a sort of general admission on the part of my informants, that if the soil was very good, and the harvest very excellent, twelve maunds of wheat or barley might be got out of a 'beegah' of land.

Difficulties experienced in the search for this information.

161. "I succeeded in getting hold of some authentic kunkoot and buttai papers of villages, with the soil of which I was well acquainted, and from examining these, I was able, as the papers shewed the transactions of five or six successive years immediately preceding the annexation, to form a not untrustworthy estimate of the average out-turn of land situated in certain localities, with reference to capability for being irrigated.

Assistance obtained from old village records.

162. "It was a fortunate circumstance in making my calculations, that the local beegah is as nearly as possible half an English acre. The weights and measures gave a little trouble, for it often happens, that the 'topa' or 'chowbeena' differs not only in different Tahseels but in the villages of the same Tahseel.*

Fortunate coincidence between local and English measures of area.

163. "On two occasions, I had the ripe wheat contained in a beegah of land reaped, threshed, and divided between the cultivator and proprietor after deduction of the usual cesses, before my eyes, as I never quitted the spot from the time when the first sickle was put in, until the time that the division was effected, I can rely on the result of my experiment on each of those occasions. The

Actual trial instituted with same object.

* The "topa" is a wooden measure containing nominally 2 seers, but as Mr. Ouseley remarks its actual capacity varies very much. In the Bhera Talooqua it holds exactly two seers, in the Bar Moosa Talooqua $1\frac{1}{2}$ seers. In the Kaloowāl, Moosa Chooia, and Midh sub-divisions, 1 seer 10 chitaks is the average capacity. In the Mianee Talooqua $1\frac{1}{2}$ seers. In the Lukchawa Talooqua 1 seer 14 chitaks. But throughout the Shahpoor Purgunnah, with a few exceptions, two seers is the rule. All agricultural transactions are regulated by this standard of measurement, of which the following is a complete table:—

4 Purōpees=1 Topa.
4 Topas=1 Paice.
5 Paices=1 Maund.

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" zemindars were very averse to my testing the out-turn of
 " a beegah with a good crop on it, so I allowed them to
 " select the field themselves. My object was not to try and
 " find out how much could be got out of a 'beegah' of land,
 " but rather what was the *minimum* out-turn of a bad beegah
 " of 'chahee' land in my best 'chuck' or assessment division.
 " Possessed of this knowledge, I was pretty well guarded
 " against the danger of over-assessment, and as the highest,
 " which is equivalent to saying the *worst* 'chahee' in the
 " best chuck was equal to the ordinary chahee of the
 " nukka chuck, or belt of land lying between the 'Hitar'
 " and 'Qotar' chucks, I was able to form a tolerably accu-
 " rate estimate of what the out-turn of a beegah of land
 " in that chuck ought to be.

Data so ob-
 tained receiv-
 ed due consi-
 deration.

164. " This explanation will, I hope, show that
 " although I did not prepare intricate and alarmingly elab-
 " orate arrays of figures, professing to represent the net
 " assets of a purgunnah, and of each village in that pur-
 " gunnah, in kind, and in the money equivalent for the
 " produce shown, still the importance of obtaining reliable
 " information regarding the average out-turn of a acre of
 " each class of soil, was not under-estimated by me, and
 " that the information so collected had a due share in the
 " considerations which influenced me in fixing my assess-
 " ment rates.

The result of
 these enqui-
 ries.

165. " The result of these enquiries was to show me,
 " that after deducting the usual cesses, such as 'huq-
 " malikana,' 'huq-kummeena,' 'wuzunkushée,' 'huq-ool-
 " meerasee wa oolimâ,* there still remained close upon
 " four maunds of grain. Taking one-fourth of this as repre-
 " senting the Government share, and converting it into
 " money at the low rate of one maund of wheat for the
 " rupee, I got a produce rate of one rupec per beegah for
 " the worst chahee land, in the best chuck, and for the
 " ordinary chahee land of the rest of the district.

Rent-rate not
 generally as-
 certainable.

166. " Having obtained a produce rate, I endeavoured
 " to ascertain rent rates for each kind of soil. Owing to the
 " tenures being almost entirely bhyachara, and it being the
 " custom for proprietors to take rent in kind from their
 " tenants, I was unable to collect such a mass of data

* Note—This allowance is sometimes called "yukk rusool," and consists of two "topahs" in the maund, separated off before the division of the produce between the proprietor and cultivator takes place. The perquisite being only claimable by the family meerases of the original founder and his descendants, its receipt is looked upon as a infallible test of the hereditary title of the family of which the recipient is a dependant.

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" regarding prevailing rent-rates, as would have justified me in making a wide and general application of such rates to large areas, but still I was able to collect waifs and strays of information here and there, which guided me towards forming an idea of what the annual rent of each particular kind of land would probably be, were money rents to be generally substituted for payments in grain.

Approximation to rent-value of land nevertheless obtained.

167. " The chief sources whence I gathered information on these points, were the summary suits between co-sharers, and between land-lords and tenants, and *vice versa*, in the investigation of which I was largely employed during my residence at Shahpoor. There is also a tenure in Shahpoor, which is to be found in Jhung, and Mooltan, by which parties who have no share in the proprietorship of the village and are not admitted to an audit of the village accounts, hold a plot of land at a money rate, which was fixed by the Kardar in charge of the ilaqua, and was not subjected to variation without his sanction. After the summary revision of the Government demand, it often became a question, how much the holders of these plots of land, called puttadars, ought to contribute, and of course this could not be determined without arriving at some conclusion as to the rates which might be considered fair and equitable in that neighbourhood. Lastly, there are a great number of these puttai wells in the neighbourhood of the cities of Bhera and Saiwāl. Many of these are held by rent free holders, who rented them out to farmers.* I was unable to ascertain the terms of some of these leases, and after making due allowance for the vicinity of a large city, and the description of crops grown in consequence thereof, I was enabled to arrive at conclusions, which I think were not incorrect, regarding the equitable rent-rate for each description of land.

Sources whence information gathered.

168. " Feeling however, as I have hinted above, that my information regarding rent-rates was not collected from

Insufficient of itself.

* In a subsequent letter to my address Mr. Onseley writes as follows of these tenures :—" The assessment of the puttai wells gave me a great deal of trouble. In villages where only one or two of these wells were to be found, their owners were allowed to pay by revenue rates, subject to a malikana if it appeared that they had been in the habit of paying any malikana. But they were told that their tenure in the land in case they paid malikana would only last as long as their well lasted. If the well from any cause should cease to exist then their connection with the land would cease also." The above refers only to those cases where the proprietor of the well and of the land were different persons, besides these there were a great number of wells for which the proprietors during the Sikh rule paid a fixed sum in cash, this arrangement was allowed to remain undisturbed until the regular settlement, when the puttai were cancelled and the wells came under assessment on the same footing as the rest of the village lands. W. G. D.

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Hence another process tried.

" a sufficient number of instances to warrant my deducing revenue rates from them, and from them only, I determined to try and get my revenue rates by another process, keeping the clue which I had obtained, respecting rent-rates, as a guide and check on the result of my other calculations.

Villages classified with reference to facilities of irrigation.

169. " Having been several years in the district, I found no difficulty in classifying the villages of each tahseel under the heads of 'hethar,' 'nukka' and 'oôtar.' This was not done merely from the map, but from frequent personal observation of the situation of each village.

Incidence of existing assessment ascertained.

170. " This classification being made, I selected (as from my intimate knowledge of them I was easily able to do) a fair number of villages representing each of the above descriptions of land, which I knew paid the Government demand with ease and punctuality, and observed at what rate the demand fell on the malgoozaree area. I also noticed the rate at which the Government demand fell on the malgoozaree area of those villages which were notoriously under and over-assessed.

Revenue rates deduced therefrom.

171. " From these calculations, made separately for each Tahseel, I deduced revenue rates, particulars regarding which will be found in the subjoined tabular statement :—

Name of Tahseel.	Name of Chuck.	RATE PER ACRE OF								REMARKS.
		Chahee.						Baranep.		
		Sailab.		Khalis.		Sailab.				
Bhera, ...	Hethar, ...	2	8	1	12	1	12	34 villages of this Tahseel have since been transferred to Shahpoor and 131 villages received from Tahseel Kalowâl.
	Nukka, ...	...	...	1	10 to 12	...	...	...	8
	Oôtar, ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	8
Saiwal (now Shahpoor),	Hethar { 1st class,	2	4	1	12	1	12	This Tahseel has since been broken up, part going to Bhera, the rest (138 estates) being transferred to Jhung.
	2nd ,,	2	...	1	8	1	4	...	...
	Nukka,	1	10 to 12	8	
Kaloowal, ...	Oôtar,	1	8	
	Hethar { 1st class,	2	4	1	12	1	8	
	2nd ,,	2	...	1	8	1	4	
	Nukka,	1	12	8	

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172. " But these revenue rates having been ascertain- Results so
 " ed, the results which they gave for each village were not obtained not
 " blindly accepted. The rates were considered merely as implicitly re-
 " reasonable method for arriving at an approximately fair lied on,
 " Government demand. That demand was not fixed, until
 " it had been tested by the light of the produce and rent-
 " rates, by the number of ploughs and wells in each village,
 " by the quantity of land which, though entered as cultivated
 " because it was ploughed up, was nevertheless, according to
 " the agricultural practice prevailing in certain parts of the
 " district, allowed to lie fallow for a year, by the number of
 " cultivators in each village, and generally by the circum-
 " stances and status of the inhabitants of each village, facts
 " with which, owing to my long residence in the district and
 " continued employment in the revenue work connected
 " with it, I was well acquainted.

173. " In order to explain how I worked out my Mode of
 " jummas, I will take the first village on the Tahseel Saiwâl, working out
 " Hethar chuck register, Mouza Bukkhur. This village jummas
 " contained a cultivated area amounting to 1,916 acres, thus: plained.
 " In the ' Boord Buramed ' chuck, 21 acres (being trifling in
 " amount I applied no rate to this)

" Chahee sailab	" 181 acres ×	2½ Rs. = 452
" Chahee khalis	" 954 " ×	1½ " = 1,668
" Sailab	" 760 " ×	1½ " = 1,380

कमरेव नयन

Total Rs. 3,450

" But I knew that the jumma shown by this process was
 " much too low. I knew that before the annexation the
 " village used to pay Rs. 4,736 and Rs. 4,425, and that
 " since the annexation it had paid regularly and easily
 " Rs. 4,000. I also knew that there was a large amount of
 " Bela land, (waste land on the bank of the river), which
 " owing to disputes could not be broken up, but which
 " would be cultivated immediately that the settlement papers
 " were ready. This land situated in the ' Hethar ' chuck
 " amounted to some 867 acres. I knew that most of the
 " arca said to be under cultivation was actually under crop
 " during the year, and that only some 261 acres had remain-
 " ed fallow during the year. I also knew that the village
 " was famous for its fine crops of poppy. Lastly, the
 " Tahseeldar, and Extra Assistant Commissioner Motce Lall,
 " speaking independently of each other, thought the Govern-
 " ment demand ought to be Rs. 4,500 per annum. Putting
 " all these considerations together, I fixed the demand at

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“Rs. 4,400. This explanation will I trust, with the help of the different papers, explain the ‘Hethar’ and ‘Nukka Chuck’ assessments. But the Barjummas require something further to be said about them.

Peculiar circumstances that influenced assessments in the Bar.

174. “In the Sikh time the Bar jungle villages paid a lump assessment, which was composed of a land tax, cattle tax and house tax.* The inhabitants used also to pay another cess called ‘Furohec.’ The amount of this tax was very variable, and indeed its collection, as far as I could ascertain, was accompanied with trouble. It was supposed to represent 25 per cent of the value of the property annually stolen by the inhabitants of any particular village. However this was an irregular source of income for the Kardar, and was not included in the official jumma-bundee, consequently it formed no part of the data on which the assessments of the summary and regular statements were fixed.

System pursued during first summary settlement.

175. “When I made the first summary settlement of the Bar villages in 1852-53, Mr. E. Thornton, the Commissioner, instructed me to assess what was fair on their cultivated area, and then to number their cattle, and dem and ‘tirnee’ or grazing tax for them, at certain rates for each different kind of cattle. It was the Commissioner’s wish, that the cattle having been once numbered, and the amount assessable on them having been ascertained, by the application of certain fixed rates, the sum demandable from any one village should be estimated in the lump, and on condition of a village engaging for the payment of its grazing tax for three years, that 18 or 20 per cent was to be deducted from the sum so ascertained in order to allow for losses by death, straying, stealing, &c. The village cattle owners having engaged with the Government collectively were to be left to lay their ‘bachh’ amongst themselves as they thought best.

Reliable enumeration of cattle found impracticable.

176. “But when it came to the point, it was found to be most difficult, if indeed it were not impossible, to make a tolerably reliable enumeration of the cattle of each village. The Bar villagers are almost all connected with each other by relationship or marriage, and they used to shift their cattle, not only into each other’s villages, but even into the neighbouring districts of Jhung and Googaira. Their account of the mode in which their revenue used to be

* Practically this is still the case, as the proprietors in distributing the jumma fixed by Mr. Onseley have assigned a portion to each of these three headings. For further particulars relating to this subject see para 283 of this report.

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“ collected, was to the effect, that in the rubbee they had to
 “ pay Rs. 21 per well for the land cultivated on each different
 “ well, and grazing tax at the rates of—

Rupee 1-0-0 per head of buffaloes.

„ 0-8 ans. „ of cows.

„ 1-0-0 per 14 head of sheep or goats.

“ In the khureef they paid one rupee per beegah, *not on*
 “ *all the land which they might have sown with seed*, but on all
 “ the land which produced crops fit for cutting, and they
 “ paid a house tax varying from one to four rupees per
 “ house, according to circumstances.

177. “ It became apparent to me, that if I fixed the
 “ amount demandable on account of land, at revenue rates
 “ suitable for the land of the Bar jungle, Government
 “ would be great losers; and, accordingly, I determined to
 “ reduce the original jummas, only so far as according to
 “ the result of my local enquiries seemed to be necessary,
 “ and to call the amount so fixed a lump assessment, the
 “ distribution of which over land, cattle, and houses was
 “ left to the villagers.

The alterna-
 tive adopted.

178. “ When the regular settlement came to be fixed,
 “ it was necessary to face this question of the separation of
 “ land revenue from grazing tax; but, owing to the extent of
 “ area within each village having been definitely ascertained
 “ by the demarcation of boundaries, a solution presented
 “ itself.

Separation
 of land reve-
 nue from tir-
 necce necessary.

179. “ The Bar villages had been told, that in mark-
 “ ing out their boundaries they would receive grazing land
 “ proportioned to the number of their cattle.

How this
 was effected.

180. “ When the time for assessment came round,
 “ they were told that their cultivated area would be assessed
 “ at a certain rate, which would determine their contribu-
 “ tion to the land revenue, whereas their jungle area would
 “ be taxed at another rate, which although it might be
 “ called land revenue, would more strictly represent what
 “ they paid on account of the number of cattle which they
 “ possessed. If they had as much cattle as they professed
 “ to have, they could easily pay for their jungle area. If
 “ they had not cattle proportioned to their jungle land, I
 “ told them to keep as large an area of jungle as they felt
 “ inclined to pay for at my rates, and that any land in
 “ excess of what they so paid for should be excluded from
 “ the area of their village and converted into a Govern-
 “ ment rukh.

Explanation
 continued.

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Rates adopted.

181. "To the best of my recollection, I fixed the revenue rate for chahee land in the Bar at one rupee per acre, and I assessed the jungle land at one rupee for every 20 acres.

Assessment statements to be referred to for particulars.

182. "What I have written will I hope explain the object with which each of my tabulated statements were prepared, and an examination of these statements, will I trust throw light on the reasons which guided me in fixing the assessment of any particular village; but these papers must be looked on as a whole, and too much weight must not be attached to any one of them viewed by itself: for instance, if it appears that the jumma for any village as deduced by the revenue rates is much higher or lower than the jummas ultimately fixed, let the paper which shows the number of wells and ploughs in each village, the average quantity of land cultivated on each well, the number of cultivators, the previous demand, the ease or difficulty with which that demand was realized, &c. &c., be looked into, and the desired explanation will probably be found in some or other of them.

Illustrations.

183. "Thus, if the cultivated area of two contiguous and similarly situated villages, be shown to be 100 acres each, the number of wells in one 10, and in the other 6, the chances are, (particularly if there was formerly a difference in the amount of revenue paid by each) that I should fix the jumma of one village at a lesser figure than I should assess on the other; for this reason that, though the cultivated area appeared to be equal, still it was most probable that the crops produced on the 10 wells would be stronger and better than the crops produced on an equal quantity of land watered from only six wells.

Apology for absence of more detailed information.

184. "I have now explained the principles by which I was guided in making my assessments. If this exposition of them sounds general and vague, I can only say that at this distance of time and place, and pressed as I am for leisure by the nature of my present duties, it is impossible for me to be more precise or minute; and as I am obviously (owing to the time which has elapsed since my connection with the Shahpoor district ceased) writing under disadvantages, I hope I may be allowed to reap any benefits that the lapse of time may have created in my favor.

General result of the re-

185. "The Government demand as fixed by me at the regular settlement showed an increase on the summary

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"settlement demand.* This was not the case with regard vision of as-
 "to most of the settlements effected at that period. I am sessment.
 "not aware that the assessments framed by me have to any
 "considerable extent been found erroneous, or that the
 "measurement papers and record of rights on which pains
 "were bestowed, have in many instances been found
 "incorrect."

186. Here ends that portion of Mr. Ouseley's memo. Observations
 which is devoted to a description of the settlement operations on general
 as far as the determination of the Government demand; but character of
 before proceeding to explain how my share of the same work Mr. Ouseley's
 was done, I may add my testimony, to which four year settlement.
 experience in the district will perhaps lend some weight, that
 the assessment made by Mr. Ouseley is a fair one, and that,
 if he erred at all, it was on the side of leniency, more especi-
 ally in the Bar, from which no doubt double the existing
 revenue could be obtained without much difficulty; it must
 not however be forgotten, that, when Mr. Ouseley made his
 assessment, the country was not in the prosperous condition
 in which it now is, and that the small fixed revenue obtained
 from this tract is supplemented by the annually increasing
 income from grazing leases in the rukhs, which were for the
 first time created during his settlement.

187. It will contribute materially to a clear under-
 standing of what follows, if I now show what portions of the
 district, as it is now constituted, remained unsettled when
 Mr. Ouseley left it in 1860.

* The following are the figures in continuation of the information con-
 tained in the tabular statement at foot of page 59.

No.	Tahseel.	Jumma of sum- mary set- tlement.	Jumma of regu- lar set- tlement.	In- crease.	De- crease.	REMARKS.
1	Bhera, ...	1,07,579	1,04,658	...	2,921	Balancing these last two columns gives an increase of Rs. 3,386. The in- crease was caused chiefly by the formation of new estates, the decrease was due to reduction of jum- ma in existing villages.
2	Shahpoor,	96,138	1,02,120	5,682	...	
3	Kaloowál,	63,738	64,363	625	...	
	Total,	2,67,455	2,71,141	6,307	2,921	

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Details of tracts remaining to be settled.

188. The various changes that took place during the period that Mr. Ouseley remained at the head of affairs, and in the two years following his departure, have been detailed in paras. 8 to 12 of the introduction. It resulted from these, that when I took charge, the work of revision had to be extended to the following tracts, all in the Khooshab Tahseel:—

IN THE SALT RANGE.

The Soon Talooqua,	19 villages, jumma	Rs. 30,910
The Khubbukkee „	6 „	„ 9,134
Part of the Noorpoor „	6 „	„ 6,801
Do. of Mitta Tewana	3 „	„ 1,525 48,370

IN THE PLAINS AT FOOT OF SALT RANGE.

The Kutha Talooqua,	19 villages, jumma	Rs. 10,800
Part of Ahmedabad „	6 „	„ 11,224
The Mitta Tewana „	21 „	„ 30,578
The Noorpoor „	18 „	„ 8,769 61,371

Grand Total Rs., 1,09,741

The previous history of these tracts has been given in the first part of this report, but a few words may here be devoted to describing the revenue administration during the same period.

These tracts by whom held during Sikh rule.

189. The Mitta Tewana, Noorpoor and Soon Talooquas, as before explained, formed part of the jageer of Hurree Sing Nulwa. After the death of this leader, the two former were transferred in farm to Mullick Futtch Khan Tewana, and were held by him, with but few interruptions, till his death in 1848. At the same time, the Soon Talooqua was for a year or two given in farm to Raja Goolab Sing, who, at this time, held the contract for the greater part of the district, and afterwards transferred in jageer to Sirdar Goormookh Sing Lamba, as described in para 93.

The same continued.

190. The Khubbukkee and Kutha Talooquas were, for many years, the jageer of Hurree Sing Muzbee, from whom they passed to Maharaja Khurruck Sing; the former in 1822 and the latter in 1825. On Khurruck Sing's elevation to the throne they were given to Sirdar Shumsher Sing Sindhanwâleea as part of his jageer, and so remained till annexation.

The same continued.

191. The Talooquas of Ahmedabad and Noorpoor Seliti, went through many hands, among others Raja Goolab

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Sing held the contract of the former for ten years from 1833 to 1843; and from 1844 to 1846, it formed part of Raja Heera Sing's jagher, while the latter for nineteen years, viz. from 1818 to 1837, constituted the jagher of Sirdar Ram Sing Billee, a native of Bhagpoor in the Manjha.

192. The management in all cases was identical; the jageerdars, being foreigners, seldom resided on the spot, hence everything was left to the resident manager or kardar, and as his tenure of office was often very precarious, he generally extorted as much from the zemindars as he could. The collections were made by that most iniquitous of systems, appraisal of the standing crop; or "tip" as it used to be called here, by which the heaviest share of the common burden was nearly always made to fall on the shoulders least fitted to bear it, because forsooth, the owners were unable to bribe the kardar or his underlings into making a favorable estimate of the probable out-turn of their fields, as their richer brethren did: 'Battai,' a far fairer mode of collection, was only resorted to in favor of individuals whom the kardar wished to humour, or in respect of lands, of which some portion of the state or jageerdar's share of the produce, had been temporarily alienated as a concession to the leading members of the agricultural community.

Revenue administration during the same period.

193. The first summary settlement was made by Mr. L. Bowring, and, seeing what insufficient and unreliable data he had to work with, the rapidity with which the assessments had to be made, and how obviously it was the interest of the jageerdars, whose income would be affected by the arrangements made, to mislead, it is rather a matter of surprise that the first settlements worked so well, than that considerable inequalities in the assessments were subsequently discovered. Other causes also which, after all that has been written on the subject, it is unnecessary to repeat, combined to render revision necessary before long; and this was accordingly effected in 1852 by Major C. Browne for the talooquas afterwards received from Jhelum; and in the following year, by Mr. David Simson for those which then formed part of the Leia district. The result of these revisions was a considerable reduction in the assessments of the hill talooquas, but more especially in regard to the jummas of the villages lying along the north of the Soon valley. The assessment of the Mitha talooqua was also somewhat reduced, while that of Noorpoor was raised by nearly thirty per cent.

First summary settlement.

194. This second summary settlement worked tolerably well; but still it was known that the assessment of the

Second summary settlement.

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Salt Range villages was somewhat oppressive, and from time to time relief was given in the most glaring cases. This settlement was ostensibly made for two years only, but soon after this term had expired, the mutinies broke out, and before the finances of the country had recovered themselves sufficiently to allow of measures entailing extraordinary expenditure being undertaken, the Leia district was broken up, which led to further delay, and thus it was that no steps were taken for some time to place the assessment and the rights of property on a sound basis. It must not however be omitted from mention that Mr. Parsons in 1860 revised the Government demand in the Noorpoor talooqua; the result was a slight reduction; but a more important change was made in allowing the proprietary body in each village to engage separately for their own revenue, instead of the plan which had been in force up to that time, by which the Tiwana Mullicks had alone been responsible for the payments of the whole talooqua.

Demarcation
of boundaries
in the Salt
Range.

195. The demarcation of boundaries preliminary to regular settlement operations had been completed everywhere but in the Noorpoor talooqua when I took charge of the district and settlement. In the tracts received from Jhelum this important operation had been carried out under the orders of Mr. A. Brandreth, by Gholam Hussun, one of his superintendents, as described by the former officer in paras 85 to 89 of his admirable report, where the principles on which this work was done are also fully explained.

In Mitha
Tiwana.

196. In Mitha Tiwana the same work was commenced in 1856 by one Rowshun Ali, but owing partly to the state of parties in this tract, and partly to the breaking out of the mutinies, it was not completed till Mr. Ouseley put the finishing stroke to the operation during the cold season of 1858-59. An extract from a letter written by him at the time may be appropriately introduced here, as showing the difficulties experienced by him, and the plan advocated and ultimately adopted for their removal.

Description
of Mitha Ti-
wana ilaqua.

197. "The inhabitants of these villages cultivate but 'little land, as the soil is poor, and they have to depend entirely on the fall of rain for its irrigation; but they keep large numbers of camels and herds of cattle, and for these they pay tirnee, or grazing tax.

No recog-
nized bounda-
ries prior to
annexation.

198. "Before the commencement of our rule, there 'existed no regularly defined, or universally acknowledged, 'boundary lines between those villages which were situated 'in the Thull or desert: might was right, and everybody

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“grazed his cattle wherever he could do so. But owing to the lawlessness of the times, however far parties took their cattle from the villages during the day, they brought them back to the protection of the village for the night. Since annexation people have become bolder. Small parties of men who would formerly have been afraid to have separated themselves so far from the main village, have during the past few years, sunk a kutcha well, and built a hut or two, at some spot favorable for pasturage, five or ten miles from their village. More than this, since the people began to learn the weight which is attached by us to possession (kubza) they have taken to ploughing up and sowing small patches of ground, not equal in size to a quarter of acre, at distances of from three to ten miles from their villages, the object being to try and make good their title to all the intermediate grazing land between these patches and their village sites.

Change since that time.

199. “Last year when at Mitha Tiwana, I had to visit a spot which was the subject of dispute between the zemindars of Mitha and Ookleymohlan. I found that the disputed boundary was nearly ten miles from one village and seven miles from the other. The dispute itself extended over five or six miles of desert, and before I left the spot the zemindars of Roda in the Leia district came up, and declared that the land which I had been looking at belonged to their village, which was six or seven miles away. During my ride I was taken, by one party or other, to see the marks of their ‘kubza,’ which were little patches of ground of the size of a quarter of an acre or so, scattered over distances of a mile or more from each other, in which somebody had sown a few seeds of ‘bajra,’ which had never ripened owing to want of rain. The existence of these spots appeared to be only known to a few men on either side; and from the recriminations which used to follow on their being brought to notice, I believe they were ploughed up and the seed cast in secretly at night, and then neglected altogether, as the object was not to attract the attention of the opposite party to the progress that was being made in securing ground until the settlement ahulkars should commence operations.”

Illustration.

200. Mr. Onseley then asked for instructions as to the principles on which the demarcation of boundaries should be conducted, and after stating that, in his opinion it would not answer to apportion only a certain quantity of land to each village, calculated according to the number of cattle in the village, and to call the superfluous area Rukh Sirkaree, because it would be difficult to put up and keep up bounda-

Plan proposed by Mr. Onseley.

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The Settlement.

His proposal
sanctioned.

ries; he asked for permission to mark out the boundaries arbitrarily according to the best of his judgment, as to the rights and requirements of each village, and without going through the process of taking evidence as to ancestral rights and possession, as the lands in dispute really belonged to no one in particular, and owing to the contending parties being the Mullicks of Mitha Tiwana and the neighbouring zemindars, the process of taking evidence would lead to a great deal of false swearing and endless delay. The Commissioner Mr. Roberts, concurring in the view taken by Mr. Ouseley, sanctioned his proposals, and the boundaries that remained unsettled were marked out accordingly.

Noorpoor
Talooqua re-
mained unde-
marcated.

201. There still remained Noorpoor, and it was one of the earliest questions I had to decide, whether boundaries should be put up in this wild region, or not. I was, at first, inclined to think with Mr. Ouseley, that it would be difficult to put up and keep up boundary marks,* and that as the greater part of the revenue was derived from tirnee, which practically ignores boundaries, it would be better to leave matters as they were; but a tour through the Thull during the cold season of 1862-63, during which I gave the subject the fullest consideration, aided by the light of information in regard to the habits of the population, their past history and future prospects, acquired on the spot, led me to alter my original opinion, and I came to the conclusion that it was in every way advisable to put up boundaries, and after making liberal provision for the requirements of the inhabitants in respect of grazing, to mark off all superfluous waste as the property of the state. The reasons that influenced me in arriving at this conclusion were these:—

Necessity for
boundaries
here also.

202. First and foremost, there was the difficulty, not to say, impossibility, of carrying out any satisfactory measurement without them. The enormous extent of the talooqua, (nearly 800 square miles) precluded the possibility of putwarees surveying and mapping it in one piece. It was known that cultivation had greatly increased since the first assessments were made, but the patches of land used for the purpose were so scattered, that without the close scrutiny that the preparation of a shujra ensures, there would be no security that many of these plots would not be overlooked: and again, even supposing that the whole came under measurement, how unsatisfactory, not to say useless, as a foundation on which to base a record of rights, would be a

* This was stated by Mr. Ouseley as an argument only against creating government rukhs, but if it possessed any force it was an argument against demarcating the boundaries of villages also.

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register of fields without a field map. Such a register is but a blind guide, even in a well tilled country, where field succeeds field without intermission, but here in the Thull, where the patches of cultivation are often miles apart, such a document would be next to worthless.

203. Secondly, there was no doubt that there was much more waste land in Noorpoor than the population could lay claim to; to this Government had a recognized right, and this was the only time to assert it. It was reasonable to suppose, that land would become more valuable each year, and it would not therefore be wise to relinquish for ever, the right of the state in so large a tract of country; wild though it was.

Policy of reserving waste land.

204. Moreover it appeared to me, that it would be far better to substitute for the direct tax on cattle, which the tirnee is, a grazing tax properly so called, that is, to assess the *area* assigned as grazing ground to each village, instead of the *cattle*. This was the system adopted by Mr. Ouseley in the Bar, and it had been found to work admirably. Once fixed, it lasts unchanged as long as the settlement, and gives no trouble in collecting, whereas the system of raising revenue by a direct tax on cattle, gives endless trouble, owing to the erratic habits of the owners. Asamces are constantly leaving one village to settle in another, and as, when this occurs, they carry their quota of the tax with them, endless enquiries and references are the result. This was especially the case in regard to Noorpoor and Mitha Tewana, owing to the fact that the boundaries of four districts met in this part of the Thull.

Advisability of assessing land in place of cattle.

205. Further, I anticipated this good result from the change, viz. the removal of all inducement to fraud in concealing the actual numbers of cattle, which the tirnee system holds out, and the comparative ease with which reliable information on this subject would be obtained; and although to a certain extent I was disappointed in this hope, still, I feel sure that the data obtained was far nearer the truth, than any which would have followed on actual enumeration: indeed I may say that this latter would have been a hopeless operation, considering the enormous extent of the pasture grounds, and the fact that here, contrary to the custom which prevails elsewhere, herds are never brought back to the village at night.

Advantages of this plan.

206. Lastly, it seemed to me, that in the plan I had formed there lay the germ of still surer gain. Our rule, in giving increased security to property, had already borne good fruit in these wilds, in engendering among the people

Argument continued.

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The Settlement.

more settled habits. This was admitted by themselves, and further evidenced by the gradual increase of cultivation. It was clearly our policy to foster this good tendency, and by developing the inclination to till the soil, induce habits of industry, and curb the tendency to rove, which is the bane of the population of these parts. Nothing, it appeared to me, was better calculated to effect this than to keep them within fixed limits.

The proposal is approved of.

207. The plan met with favor, and I was authorized to carry it out in both Noorpoor and Mitha Tiwana. Hudbust operations were accordingly started in the September following, and brought to a close in a little over two months, by my energetic superintendent, Bukhtawar Lall, with whom, the Tahseeldar of Bukkhar was associated, in determining the boundaries common to villages of this district, and Dera Ismael Khan. The internal boundaries gave little trouble, not so however the line between the two districts, the adjustment of which roused old party feelings, and led to a great deal of litigation. These lines of demarcation were professionally surveyed during the cold season immediately succeeding, and during 1864 masonry pillars were erected to mark the exterior limits of the district, in this direction.

Measurements commenced in September 1862.

208. I have shown that when I took charge of the district in July 1862, all preliminary disputes had been disposed of everywhere but in Noorpoor. I was thus enabled to start the measurements as soon as the agency for the performance of this work had been organized, and here, too, no difficulties were experienced, as the putwarees who were to be employed, had received a thorough training under Mr. Ouseley, and both as surveyors and draftsmen were unsurpassed by any officials of the kind I had ever met with.

The agency employed.

Sketch of operations.

209. Forty putwarees were told off into pairs, one to write the register, while the other made the map of the village lands, and over these was placed a small supervising establishment consisting of five ahilkars and a moonserim. They broke ground on the 15th September, the villages of the "Mohar" and "Dunda" being the first to undergo measurement. By the end of the cold season, the work here was finished, and the measuring parties then advanced into the hills. Before the close of the rains the khusra survey here also was over, and the business of testing the khuteonces and preparing the statistics for the assessment commenced. The demarcation of boundaries in Noorpoor caused some delay, but not much time was lost; parties were despatched to complete this stage of the settlement operations in December, and by the end of February 1864 they had

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brought their work to an end. With a large establishment, the whole of the measurements might have been done in three months, but economy was an object held in view; and having charge of the district at the same time I was glad of the leisure afforded by the slow rate of progress, to move about this part of the district, and pick up information which would be of assistance when the time came to make the assessments.

210. The system of testing the correctness of the measurements, was precisely that described by Mr. Ouseley in his memorandum, and therefore nothing more need be said regarding it, but some slight variations in the details of the procedure adopted, to suit the peculiar circumstances of the several tracts to be surveyed, require notice.

Measurements how tested.

211. The scale on which the maps of the previously settled portions of the district were drawn, being found to be too small to show distinctly the somewhat minute plots into which land is divided for cultivation in the Salt Range, was increased to four chains to the inch, which is exactly five times the scale on which the revenue survey maps are delineated. In the Mohar and Dunda villages the scale adopted was five chains, but in the Thull with its enormous pasture grounds, and widely scattered patches of cultivation, a map on this scale would have been unwieldy and useless to the last degree; it was determined, therefore, to reduce the scale by one half, which of course reduced the size of the maps, superficially, to one-fourth of what they would otherwise have been.

Modifications required to suit circumstances of tracts surveyed.

212. The plan of laying down the fields of the shujra on separate sheets of paper, of the same size, and putting these together when the measurement of the village is completed, described by Mr. Brandreth in his report on the Jhelum settlement, was introduced by me here. It was first devised I believe by Mr. Monckton, and its great advantages had been seen by me while the settlement of the Jhung district was in progress. It is the only plan by which the original field map, a document of the greatest importance, can be preserved fit for use; otherwise, when the settlement is over, a tracing from the original (by this time in pieces) has to be supplied to the putwaree, and it will readily be seen, how inevitably errors must creep into a copy, of which the original perhaps contains several thousand separate fields.

Maps plotted on separate sheets.

213. A great deal of attention was also paid to another point which early asserted its claims to notice, viz.

Hill streams carefully delineated.

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the correct delineation of the various channels, by which the surface drainage of the hills is conducted into the valleys of the Salt Range and the plains below, and the necessity for minutely recording the mode in vogue for distributing the water of these torrents. The importance of this will best be appreciated when I come to describe the recognized distinctions in the soils of this part of the district, but a few words may advantageously be said, explanatory of the actual methods of distribution in use. These are two : first, by shares, the right to the water often residing exclusively in certain families ; secondly, by means of dams thrown across the beds of torrents. In the former case, spurs are thrown out, and so made as to carry into the sharer's private duct, as much of the entire volume of water brought down by the stream, as is due to his share. In the latter case, when the person entitled to a share in the water has irrigated his fields, the bund is cut away by those whose lands lie lower down the stream ; and water, in this comparatively dry climate, is of so much value, that not a drop of the precious element is ever allowed to be wasted, or to pass off into the fields of those not entitled to participate in its benefits.

Modes of
distributing
water in force.

214. Where the first mode of distribution prevailed, all that was necessary, was to show, who was entitled to share in the water, the extent of each share, the points at which the water due to the several quotas is taken off, and the channels by which it is conveyed into the several fields to be so irrigated ; all this has been carefully exhibited in the shujra, and further, as often as the drainage waters pass from the fields of one proprietor to those of another, the points of exit have been delineated in red lines on the map, and a corresponding entry made in the column of remarks of the field register. But in the case of irrigation by means of dams, it was thought best to have a separate plan of the torrent prepared, showing the exact spots at which it was allowable to erect bunds, and also the fields entitled to participate in the irrigation. These details could not have been shown in the shujra (field map) without greatly disfiguring it. It is believed, that these separate plans will be of the greatest use in the future decision of disputes connected with the right to the use of the water of these hill streams, disputes that are so common throughout these tracts, but which, without the assistance of good plans, are almost impossible of decision except on the spot.

The assess-
ment.

215. I have now arrived at the assessment, in describing which, I shall quote largely from the letter in which

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I reported the completion of this work, explained the principles on which it had been based, and asked for permission to announce the new jummas.

216. The physical features of the tract of country, to which my operations were confined, have been described in paras 9 to 19 of Part I of this report, and elsewhere in the same section information will be found bearing on the following points, which had to be taken into consideration in fixing the assessment, viz. the supply of irrigation; the prevailing character of the husbandry, and the crops grown; the thermal conditions of the two most important natural divisions, as they affect the degree of moisture required to bring crops to maturity, and determine the choice of staples; and the relative densities of the population in each. To this I now propose to add, a somewhat minute account of the distinguishing characteristics of soil throughout, coupled with remarks on any other topics that may suggest themselves, as having influenced me in estimating the paying capabilities of the several tracts that formed the subject of my inquiries. These for purposes of assessment were divided into five circles: (1) the hill circle, (2) the "Mohar" circle, (3) the "Dunda" circle, (4) the "Thull" circle, and (5) the river circle.

Reference to
previous description.

Additional
matters to be
treated of.

I. THE HILL CIRCLE.

217. A knowledge of the constitution of the Salt Range would tell us, apart from actual experience, how fertile must its soil be, for it is well known that the rich loams of England, and its best wheat soils, are formed by the gradual admixture of the constituents of limestone and sandstone-rocks, with clay, where these are found in contact; and the Range here abounds in all these ingredients of a rich soil. Among them, lime prevails largely, and to its presence is doubtless owing the unusually large average yield per acre of wheat, obtained as the result of numerous experiments in different parts of these hills. In appearance the soil closely resembles the alluvium deposited by the rivers, but is perhaps a degree lighter. It preserves the same character throughout this portion of the range, the only marked variation being in the flat table land to the east about Jaba and Pacl, where it is more sandy and less fertile. But although speaking in general terms the soil must be pronounced very fertile, yet its productive powers differ greatly in the several villages, and even in the same village, according as its situation places it more or less in the way of receiving the fertilizing deposits brought down by the hill torrents after rain. Through the area of one village, will flow three or four

Soil of the
Salt Range.

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distinct streams, laden with the riches gathered during a course of many miles, while another will be dependent for its supply of moisture on the surface drainage from a few low hills alone. The former will be able, on all the land within the immediate influence of the stream, to raise a double crop, each as good as the one that preceded it, and so on from year to year; while the lands of the other, after yielding an inferior crop, will have to lie fallow for a year to recover its strengt¹

How classi-
fied.

218. It is this state of things which has led to the popular classification of soils into "hail," or land directly irrigated by a torrent; "maira," or that which receives only the surface drainage from a few low hillocks, or land lying above it; and "rukku," soil which is dependent for its moisture on the rains and dews of heaven alone. The texture of the soil called "maira" is as a rule, looser and lighter than "hail," while "rukku" is characterized by being more stony than either. These distinctions were recorded by the putwaries together with the measurements. As may be supposed, where so much depended on the class to which each particular field was assigned, numerous fraudulent entries were made, but repeated testing, in which I took a personal share, gradually eliminated the errors, and before the work of assessment commenced, as much accuracy, in this respect, was attained as could well be looked for.

System of
irrigation.

219. The mode of utilizing the drainage waters is too well known to need much description. The fields are laid out in gradually descending terraces, surrounded each with an embankment or bund, till the lowest level is reached. To those who have seen much of this kind of cultivation it is not difficult to distinguish, at a glance, the more valuable "hail" from the inferior "maira" lands:—The former are, as a rule, near to some torrent, and to enable them to benefit fully from the large volumes of water that come rushing down these drainage channels after heavy rain, the "bunds" that surround the fields must be both high and strong; where this is the case, the soil becomes well saturated, and at the same time receives a rich deposit of alluvium. The bunds of the "maira" fields not being required to withstand any great pressure of water, are much lower, so that if there were no other guide, the class to which any particular field belongs might be roughly judged of by the size of the embankment surrounding it.

Supply of
irrigation.

220. There is little or no artificial irrigation in these hills. There are, it is true, a few wells, but they are invariably made over to "muliars," or market gardeners, who content

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themselves with growing a few acres of vegetables round each. For the rest, the soil is dependent for its supply of moisture on the periodical rains alone. All that need be said further in the matter of natural irrigation is, that the Soon valley is by far the best supplied; the high hills to the south and west act as vast receivers, and the rain falling on them is discharged through numerous channels, in large volumes, of which the villages along those sides monopolize the greater part. The estates lying in the centre and on the opposite (north) side of the valley are less favoured in this respect, and their lands are, as a consequence, not so fertile. In the next rank comes the Khubbukkee valley; to this succeed the smaller valleys scattered throughout the broken ridges on the southern side of the Range, and last of all, at a considerable distance, follow the flat table lands of the eastern division.

221. The agricultural population of these hills, if distributed over the *whole area*, would appear to be far from dense. The result so obtained would however be entirely delusive, as a test whereby to judge of the pressure of the assessment, so far as the density or otherwise of the population affects the sum to be paid by it as *land revenue*. For this purpose we require to know what relation the population bears to the cultivated and culturable area. Now, the land which comes under these two denominations is considerably less than one seventh of the whole area of the Range. In actual numbers it only amounts to 46,000 acres, while the inhabitants number 28,607 souls, so that in place of a thin population, we have the very dense one of 400 to the square mile. The fact is, that land throughout the Salt Range is very minutely divided, and is barely sufficient for the support of its inhabitants. Little attention appears to have been paid to this fact in making former assessments, for I have generally found, that where the people have been most tightly packed, there they have had to pay at the highest rates. It is needless to say that the revenue was not, and could not, be paid from the produce of the land on which it was assessed, but had to be made good from the profits of tillage in other villages more lightly taxed.*

Population.

Apparently scanty.

Really dense

* It was objected at the time, that I had allowed myself to be too much influenced by this consideration, and there is no doubt that, carried too far, it would lead to unnecessary sacrifice of revenue, because the only remedy, emigration, owing to the peculiar tenacity with which people cling to their paternal acres, is one that is never seen to result from pressure of taxation. But I contend that we must respect the feeling that stands in our way, and that until Government changes its policy, and in imitation of its predecessors, the Sikhs, allows the love of rupees to outweigh in its estimation the contentment of its subjects, this is a point that a settlement officer can never overlook. W. G. D.

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The Settlement.

Range of
prices.

222. Prices, too, had to be considered; they had risen greatly, and there seemed no tendency to revert to the cheap rates prevalent before the famine wrought such changes. Wheat, which in the early years of our rule had sold for a maund and a half, had never since those hard times fetched less than a rupee for thirty seers. No definite conclusions could of course be formed on the returns of such a limited period, but there were many signs, such as the rapid extension of trade, the opening out of improved means of communication, the large influx of silver from Europe going on, etc., which seemed to indicate that prices would not fall so low again, or rather that the *average level* would be much higher, and subsequent experience points to the same conclusion. In making the assessments, while attention was paid to this point, care was taken to guard against the effects of possible large fluctuations.

Reasons for
lengthened
description.

223. I have treated thus fully of this division, both on account of its intrinsic value as paying, relatively to the area under cultivation, the largest revenue of any part of the district, and also because it possesses many exceptional features which are not generally known; the remaining circles will be disposed of more briefly, as being in every way of less importance.

2. THE "MOHAR" CIRCLE.

Soil of the
"Mohar."

224. The soil in this circle is a stiff marl, only second in fertility to the best soils of the Salt Range. With a good supply of water, the crops grown on it are splendid, but then the fact has to be borne in mind that the actual supply is both precarious and insufficient. In one respect, however, the villages here possess an immense advantage over those of the Salt Range. They have land more than sufficient for their requirements, for, whereas the culturable area in the hills is only a seventh of the area actually under tillage, the land available for this purpose here, is more than double the land already taken up for cultivation. Thus the zemindars of this circle are enabled to change the site of their cultivation nearly every year, and to allow the abandoned land to lie fallow at least two years, and such is the custom. The quality and texture of the soil may be said to be practically the same throughout the circle, the only circumstance which here, as in the Salt Range, lends a varying value to it in the several estates, is the greater or less supply of drainage irrigation which it receives in each, and this point, more than any other, has influenced the classification of villages, and the sum to be demanded in each case. The division of soils into "naladar" and "rurheedar" has also reference to the

How classi-
fied.

The Settlement.

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same circumstance. The former is the "hail" of the plains, the soil which is directly irrigated from one of the torrents, the latter that which is dependent on the more precarious and scanty drainage from the slopes of hills, or plots of waste land above it.

225. The style of cultivation here is almost the same as in the Salt Range, the only difference being that the slope of the surface being, as a rule, more gentle, such high and strong embankments, except in the cases of fields immediately bordering on torrents, are not required. Owing to the same cause, fields are much larger; in short, cultivation is not so laborious or so expensive as in the hills above.

System of
agriculture.

3. THE "DUNDA" CIRCLE.

226. This circle is made up of the villages lying between the "Mohar" and "Thull," and partakes of the characteristics of both; that is to say, there is a certain extent of good culturable soil to the north, where it adjoins the former, while all the rest is poor and sandy, and with a few exceptional patches here and there, fit only for pasture grounds of cattle. To this general description there is, however, an exception in the few villages to the east, which are divided from the rest by the village of Nullee (settled in Mr. Ouseley's time as part of the Khoshab Talooqua). No part of their area bears any resemblance to the Thull, but is everywhere the same, an almost dead level of good stiff soil, with only just enough of slope to enable them to utilize the drainage water, which, after heavy rain in the hills, plentifully inundates the plains below. Owing to the large proportion of good culturable soil in these villages, and the favorable conformation of the surface, a much larger proportion of spring crops is grown here than in the estates lying on the other side of Nullee, and this circumstance has enabled the former to pay a much higher revenue.

Soil of the
"Dunda."

The characteristics of the
eastern portion.

227. The people inhabiting the western portion of this circle, owing to there being so large a proportion of "Thull" to culturable land, have always lived more by keeping large herds of cattle, than by cultivating the soil; nevertheless, the population here, and in the next, the purely Thull chuck, are in better circumstances than that of any other portion of the area which has come under assessment. This is easily explained. First, the security which our rule has conferred has enabled the population to turn their attention to agriculture for the first time, and enabled them to add a small, but ever increasing item to their other assets, and secondly, the difficulty of correctly ascertaining the wealth of

Those of the
western portion.

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a village in cattle, combined with the disinclination to over-tax a source of income uncertain in its nature, and liable to great fluctuations, led in the first instance, to the imposition of a light grazing tax; hence the villages have thriven and prospered.

System of
agricult ure
the same as in
the "Mohar."

228. The cultivation in the upper part of this chuck is precisely of the same character as in the "Mohar" circle, and the same crops are grown in much the same proportions: cotton ~~however~~ is, strange to say, more plentifully produced here. Artificial irrigation is unknown here, except in Mitha Tiwana, which has the large number of twelve wells, and is thereby enabled to grow a good proportion of the more valuable crops including poppy. I pass on to

4. THE "THULL" CIRCLE.

The "Thull."

229. The general appearance of this tract has been minutely described in paras 16 to 20 of this report, and all that need be added here, is that whereas before the advent of British rule such was the unsettled state of the country, that any systematic attempts at cultivation was never thought of, now, patches of cultivation, aggregating several thousands of acres, are regularly brought under the plough, and the amount of land under tillage is rapidly increasing. The crops grown are chiefly "bajra," and "moth": water-melons are also extensively cultivated, thriving wonderfully on the sandy soil, and furnishing, for a great part of the year, an important ingredient in the ordinary food of the inhabitants. Rubbee crops are only grown in the villages situated in the "Putree," viz: Noorpoor, Rahdaree, and Rungpoor.

5. THE "RIVER" CIRCLE.

The River
circle.

230. This circle consists of only three villages, and as these have nothing beyond the well known features of estates elsewhere similarly situated, I will only say this regarding them, that the sailab land is generally inferior to that on the opposite bank of the river, and the greater part of the area not liable to inundation, is deeply impregnated with salts and unfit for cultivation.

231. I will now describe briefly the way I went to work in assessing the land, and grazing tax, and the data I had to work with.

Character of
the summary
settlement.

232. The first point to which I directed my attention was the *determination of the general bearing of the existing assessment on the resources of the several tracts described above, whether it was light or heavy, equal or unequal.* For this 'I

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had ample time while the measurements were progressing. I found that the pressure of taxation was unequal throughout, but chiefly so in the Hill and "Mohar" circles: that in the former it was somewhat oppressive; that in the latter, it was on the whole, fair; and that in the Dunda and Thull circles it was decidedly light. These were general results of my observations and enquiries. The next thing was to discover which were the really fairly assessed estates in each circle. This information was also obtained without much difficulty, and thus the ground-work of the new assessment was laid.

233. I next set about grouping villages together, where from any superiority of soil or supply of irrigation, such classification was called for. This was by far the most difficult part of my task, and required a careful personal inspection of each village. The difficulty lay however almost exclusively in the Salt Range, for while it was known that great diversity in the productive powers of estates existed here, the distinctions were so fine that a practised eye was required for correctly discriminating between them, and assigning to each village its proper place. The greatest care was necessary in this operation, for, owing to the minute division of land, and little room for extension of cultivation in these estates, a mistake would have been more severely felt here than in the plains. I devoted a good deal of time and attention to this point, and the conclusions at which I arrived were, 1st, that a division into classes was required in three out of the five circles; the Hill, Mohar and Dunda chucks; 2nd, that, anxious as I was to avoid over refining, unless I divided the first of these into four classes, I should end in making as unequal an assessment, as that with which I had begun; 3rd, that there were three distinct classes of estates in the "Mohar," and two widely separate grades in the "Dunda" circle.

Estates how
classified for
revision.

General re-
sults.

234. The next step was to fix rates for each class. My mode of effecting this was as follows. I first selected the villages which I had previously ascertained to be fairly assessed, and divided the jummas by the cultivated areas in each. This gave a general rate; but something more than this was necessary, for in three of the circles there were soils of various degrees of fertility, for each of which a separate rate was required. I had therefore to ascertain the relative values of each description of soil. This was done in two ways, one by actual experiment, the other by enquiry of the people; and it is remarkable how closely the results obtained by the two methods tallied. The former consisted in selecting fields which were fair samples of each

Mode of fix-
ing rates.

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The Settlement.

kind of soil, measuring off a portion, cutting the crop, and then threshing out the grain. A number of these experiments were made, and some of the results were remarkable, so much so as to deserve to be placed on record, I therefore give them in a note. *

Description
of process con-
tinued.

235. From a collation of the results of repeated trials, averages for each kind of soil were struck, and from these again it was not difficult to deduce fair rates. In making the calculations, ample allowance was made for the uncertain nature of the cultivation; as regards the other mode of obtaining rates, it was rendered easier by the fact, that the people have always distributed the assessment among themselves, according to the classification adopted by me: and as no one could be better judges of the relative fertility of the several kinds of soil, so there was little chance of error in thus far acting on information derived from them.

Details of
rates adopted.

236. Rates having been obtained in this manner, their general suitableness was tested by working out the jummas of villages, in each class, by means of them. This led to a few modifications, but very few, and the rates as finally decided on were the following:—

Assessment circles.	Description of soils.	1st class.			2nd class.			3rd class.			4th class.		
		Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.		
HILL CIRCLE.	Hail,	2	...	...	1	8	...	1	4	...	1	...	...
	Maira,	1	8	...	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	12	...
	Rukkur, ... ..	...	12	...	...	10	...	...	8	...	...	8	...

* In Khubbukkee 5 poles of wheat grown in "hail" land yielded 28½ seers, or 22 maunds 24 seers per acre.

In Kroofree 2 poles of the same crop in "hail" yielded 12½ seers, or 25 maunds 20 seers per acre.

In Dhuddur 1 pole of ditto, ditto, gave 10 seers, or at the rate of 40 maunds per acre.

In Oochhalee 7 poles of ditto ditto, yielded 60 seers, or 34 maunds 11 seers per acre. But these trials were made in 1863, a *very good year*.

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Assessment circles.	Description of soils.	1st class.		2nd class.		3rd class.		4th class.	
		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
MOHAR CIRCLE.	Naladar,	1	8	1	...	14	...	...	...
	Rurheedar,	1	...	12	...	10	...	...	...
	Boondee, ... ..	...	8	...	8	...	8	...	...
DUNDA CIRCLE.	Naladar,	1	4	1	4	...	...	...	...
	Rurheedar,	1	...	14	...	...	...	...	...
	Boondee, ... ..	...	8	...	8	...	...	...	...
	Thull, ... ..	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
THULL CIRCLE.	No distinctions of soil or class,...	...	4	...	4	...	4	...	4
RIVER CIRCLE.	Chahco Sailab,	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sailab,	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Baranee,	1	...	Nominal.		...	...	...	...

237. Simultaneously, I caused very careful produce statements to be prepared, from which jummas were deduced in this manner. The produce per acre of each kind of crop was fixed by myself for each kind of soil, being the average for that particular soil in that class of village. The rate at which the produce was converted into money, was the average of the rates which had prevailed during the last five years, (reliable data for a longer period not being forthcoming) but, as owing to the fact that the famine year had fallen within that period, the result was probably somewhat too high, I reduced it by a fourth; for instance, if the average price of wheat

Produce
jummas how
obtained.

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during the past five years was 40 seers, I adopted 50 seers as the rate for converting the produce of wheat-fields into money, and so on for each kind of produce. Having got the value of the whole produce by this means, I took from it, the proprietor's share of the produce according to the rate of *buttai* prevailing in the village (generally half), and after deducting from this half the *chowkedar's* pay, road and school funds, * and ten per cent for *meerasee's* dues, and other customary payments, I took from the balance or net produce *one-third* as the Government *jumma*. According to the general rule I should have taken half, but in demanding the smaller proportion, reference was had to the fact, that throughout the area undergoing assessment, the harvests were entirely dependent on rain. My object was to make liberal allowance for everything. †

* See instructions for the revision of the Saharanpore Settlement, Appendix No. XX of new edition of "Directions to Settlement Officers."

† The Commissioner, while approving generally of my proceedings in connection with the assessment, made the following remarks on this portion of my report:—"You appear to have laid a good deal of stress on the *jummas* worked out by you from produce statements, and you accepted as the gross rental the proprietor's share, according to the rate of *buttai* prevailing in the village. This would no doubt be a reasonable way of estimating the proprietor's share, if all the rent was taken in kind, but this is not likely to be the case; indeed, I imagine that the rent on but a small portion of the total cultivated area is paid in this manner. Unless therefore the *buttai* rate, which is not probable, varies exactly in accordance with the productive powers of the soil, this would be but a fallacious way of estimating the rent which accrued to the proprietors from their own cultivation. Rent is usually defined to be the difference between the produce of the worst and the better kinds of soil; on this principle, some soils would hardly pay any rent at all, while others would pay much more than would be represented by an uniform fixed share of the produce. It follows therefore, that by a produce *jumma* thus estimated, inferior soils would be over-assessed, and very productive land much under-assessed." With all due deference to such an authority as Mr. Brandreth, I would urge in support of what I have done and written, that my object was simply to ascertain, what proportion of the produce remained over after deducting the *wages of the labor and the profits of capital*, and that experience in this country generally, and the system of revenue management under the Sikhs in particular, has clearly shown, that the occupant of the soil, whoever he may be, "can give up to the State half the gross produce without ruining himself and impairing the resources of cultivation." (See Mr. Temple's report on the Jullunder settlement, para. 149). Every day experience of every revenue official moreover shows that the net produce of our text-books is not the *rent of the Political Economists*, which latter pre-supposes a competition which does not exist in this country. Who ever knew of land that paid no rent in this country? The best land is certainly not leased to cultivators, and yet the proprietor will seldom take less than two-fifths of the produce from his *asamees*. The fact is, land generally is too plentiful relatively to the population, to render recourse to inferior lands necessary, and other conditions are wanting to create rent in the sense of the Political Economists; and practically we should not be far out if we said, that in this country *rent or net produce varies in a direct proportion with produce*, and that the land revenue is in reality an *excise on produce*. In support of the view here taken I quote a passage from Justice Phear's decision in the great Bengal "rent case." He says, talking of the

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238. I need scarcely say that the results obtained by these processes were not accepted as final, to be blindly followed, but were used rather as gauges for testing and correcting the estimates formed independently by my subordinates and myself. These estimates were made first, by the Superintendent Bukhtawar Lal, after a very minute examination of each estate, generally with great judgment, and then by myself. Every village was visited for this purpose, and enquiries made into every point that could in any way affect their resources and capabilities. The information so acquired being noted down on the spot for future reference, the broader facts have been given in this report; the more minute circumstances will be found in the remarks at the foot of the No. III village statement. The Tahseeldars "doul" or estimate, was also valuable, on account of the intimate knowledge he had acquired of the condition of villages during a long residence in this Tahseel. When he erred it was generally on the side of severity.

Results obtained considered as general tests only.

239. As a final test, after determining in my own mind the sum to be taken for each group of villages, I collected together a few of the most intelligent and respectable of the zemindars, and got them to redistribute the amount over the component villages. This plan answered very well everywhere but in the Thull, where, owing to the state of parties, no useful result was obtained. I generally however found that the people distrusted their own judgment, and shrunk from the task, saying that they were more willing to abide by my decision than by the opinions of any Punchayet from among themselves.

Assistance obtained from people.

240. I will now say a few words regarding the assessment of the grazing tax. The plan followed was that referred to in para. 204. The people were informed through

Assessment of tribute.

impossibility of ascertaining the true rent of land—"The various formulas of the Political Economists are but so many analyses of the results of free competition; at best they only express the amount of rent in terms of other elements, which are themselves the results of free competition. If the free competition never existed, or having once existed has in any manner been put an end to, the element depending on it cannot be ascertained. It has been attempted to estimate the rent payable by the ryot on the footing of its being a proper farming rent, such as is given birth to when there is a limitation of the demand dependent on the amount of profit got by the investment of capital, and no other limitation. But the condition and circumstances of the ryot, as I understand them, are not such as to give rise to a farming rent. His capital, when he has any, is so small, and his hereditary habits of life such that (speaking of him as a class) he seems generally to have no alternative but to cultivate the land." Lastly, from the wording of the preamble to Regulation XIX of 1793, it would seem that our revenue system is based on the principle of taking "a certain proportion of the produce of every beegah of land."

W. G. D.

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the Tahsildar, and made throughly to understand on several occasions by myself, that the land, and not their cattle, would be taxed, and that they would receive grazing land in proportion to the number of cattle enregistered by them. It might have been supposed that this would have led them to exaggerate their possessions, in order to obtain large pasture grounds, but such was not the case. The people of this country are everywhere suspicious, and here they seem to have thought that a trap was being laid to extract from them the real numbers of their cattle, in order that the information might be afterwards made use of, to raise the assessment; I had therefore to fall back upon a quiet enquiry to discover what I wished to learn; the state of feeling before alluded to, as existing throughout this part of the district, assisted me, and I was thus enabled to form, what I feel sure was, a very near approximation to the pastoral wealth of each village in the Thull and Dunda circles.

Grazing land
how allotted.

241. I had next to decide how much grazing land should be assigned to each village. To start with, I had Mr. Ouseley's rate for the "Bar," viz four acres per head of cattle. But this was obviously insufficient from the inferiority of the "Thull" as pasture grounds, when compared with the "Bar." I therefore first doubled the rate adopted for the latter, and ultimately, to be on the safe side, determined on giving ten acres all round, converting sheep and goats into large cattle at the rate of five of the former to one of the latter. This was indeed more than the villagers would have obtained had they honestly registered their cattle, but as I said before, they did not do this; and rather than they should do themselves a permanent injury by their short-sightedness, I fixed a liberal rate. In short, I allotted to each village all that it seemed to me they could fairly claim, and the remainder was marked off into Government preserves.

At what rate
assessed.

242. Again, from the information I had collected, I was enabled to deduce a rate at which to assess the area so allotted. Thus, if ten acres were required to support each head of cattle, for which the people paid tirnee, nominally, at the rate of four annas per annum, then every forty acres should pay one rupee. But here again I determined to incline to the liberal side, and ultimately fifty acres for the rupee was the rate adopted. I found also, that this was somewhat above the rate at which the people were actually paying, and I felt averse to raising the revenue much in an arid tract like the Thull, so entirely at the mercy of the seasons.

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243. The general fiscal results of the revision of this portion of the assessment will be seen from the following statement. Results of revision.

Number.	Circle.	No. of village.	Jumma of summary settlement.	Jumma of revised settlement.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	Hill,	32	44,920	40,705	...	4,215
2	Mohar,	13	26,558	26,200	...	358
3	Dunda,	13	21,676	21,770	94	...
4	Thull,	23	10,527	9,630	...	897
5	River,	3	2,620	2,450	...	170
Total ...		84	1,06,301	1,00,755	94	5,640

Reduction was nominal, except in the Hill circle, where as before explained, the summary settlement jummas pressed very heavily in places, and the general character of the assessment in the Soon valley was decidedly oppressive; on the other hand, the assessment in the "Thull" and "Dunda" circles was a good deal raised. At first sight it would appear, that there had been a considerable reduction in the tirnee of the Thull, but in reality, the tax was raised, for it must be remembered, that thirty rukhs, containing an area of 2,20,000 acres, had been marked off, and the income from these at the rate of fifty acres for the rupee will eventually bring in Rs. 4,400, though it has not been thought proper in leasing them to demand so large a sum at first.*

244. The general result therefore of this revision has been, more to equalize the burden of taxation than to affect the sum paid into the Government Treasury. It is admitted that the subject was handled in a liberal spirit, but not so as to involve any undue sacrifice of revenue; in proof of which, I may be allowed to mention one telling fact, that

Revision chiefly equalizes burden of taxation.

* The Rukhs have been leased for two years as follows:—
 Those of the Thull circle for Rs. 2,000
 Ditto of the Dunda „ for „ 1,370

Total, ... 3,370

W. G. D.

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The Settlement.

during the two years the new assessments have been acted on, no less than 276 plots of land, have been released from mortgage, on payment of 6,754 rupees ; nothing could perhaps be more strongly corroborative of the justice and good policy of the reductions then allowed.

Fiscal results of both revisions.

245. All matters connected with the revision of the assessment having now been discussed, I give here the general fiscal results of the revisions made by Mr. Ouseley and myself, following the divisions of the district as finally adjusted :—

No.	Tahseel.	Summary settlement jumma.	Revised settlement jumma.	Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
1	Bhera, ...	120,879	123,689	...	6190	The real decrease, after deducting the increase of Rs. 1702, is Rs. 11,725, which falls at about 3 per cent on the summary settlement jumma, but this does not take into account the income from rukhs (about 23,000 Rs.) which for the first time were created during this settlement.
2	Shahpoor,	109,215	110,917	1702	...	
3	Khoshab,	149,143	141,906	...	7237	
	Total, ...	388,237	376,512	1702	13,427	

Maufees and jageers.

246. There is yet one subject which requires passing notice here, before I pass on to the next stage of the settlement operations, the formation of the record of rights ; I refer to grants of revenue in maufee and jageer.

Revenue so assigned.

247. The amount of revenue so alienated amounts in all to 46,366 rupees, or rather more than twelve per cent on the jumma. Full details of jageers and maufees will be found in appendices Nos. VIII and IX, but the main facts are given here.

JAGEERS.

19 villages assessed at 18,222 rupees have been granted in perpetuity ; and 14 villages, assessed at 4,073 rupees, have been granted on a life tenure.

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MAUFEES.

Of a total of 383 plots :

51	plots,	assessed at Rs. 8,319,	have been released in perpetuity.
45	„	„ 3,170,	have been released for the maintenance of religious and charitable institutions; and
293	„	„ 11,982,	have been granted for the lives of the incumbents.

248. Claims to jageer* were all investigated in the Board's office soon after annexation. But claims to maufees, or small charitable grants for the support of individuals or institutions, were enquired into at different times on the spot. The greater part of this work was performed by the district officers, viz., Major Birch for what then constituted the Shahpoor district, Major Hollings for the tracts received from the old Leia district, and Major C. Browne for the talooquas received from Jhelum. During the progress of the settlement only 269 fresh claims were preferred, and these, after investigation by the subordinate judicial officers, were reported on by Mr. D. McNabb, in June 1861. Final orders, I am happy to say, have at last been received in all but 24 cases, and attention has been invited with a view to obtain speedy disposal of these also.

Investigations when and where made.

249. The enquiries into this latter class of cases were not conducted in a very liberal spirit, and the general result therefore was, that about two-thirds of the claims were rejected. Unfortunately, these included many cases technically known as "inams," and the zemindars, perceiving that the policy of the Government was adverse to the recognition of such claims, from that time ceased to urge them, at least on paper.

Results of enquiries.

Inams generally resumed.

250. One general principle appears to have guided the decision in this class of cases, viz., that the receipt of lumberdaree allowance was compensation in full for all claims of this nature, thus reducing the great and small all alike to one level. This was an undoubted mistake, and no attempt was made to remedy it till quite lately, for Mr. Ouseley, as would appear from his writings, was averse to

The cause.

* Excluding those granted for life, which with one exception were all given in recognition of services performed during the mutinies. W. G. D.

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The Settlement.

The mistake
since reme-
died.

the restoration of these grants, or rather was doubtful of our ability thereby to create a class that should be of real assistance in the administration. Not sharing these doubts myself, and strongly impressed with the impolicy, if not positive injustice, of debarring the leading zemindars of this district from sharing in the benefits conferred on their compeers in the surrounding districts, I brought the matter to the notice of the proper authorities, and obtained the sanction of Government to send up proposals to rectify the initial error. In accordance therewith, carefully considered recommendations have been submitted for the restoration of inams, varying in amount from fifty to two hundred and fifty rupees per annum, to fifty-five of the principal land-holders and men of influence in the district. The amount of revenue proposed to be alienated in this manner, is not five thousand rupees, or somewhat less than one and a half per cent. of the annual income from land; a small investment that I venture to predict will yield large returns.

Record of
rights, &c.

251. I will now let Mr. Ouseley explain in his own words, the principles, on which the more important questions which arose during the formation of the record of rights and liabilities, the khuteonee and khewut, were decided in the portions of the district of which he effected the settlement.

CONTINUATION OF MR. OUSELEY'S MEMORANDUM.

Tenures.

252. "The bhayachara tenure as a rule prevailed in this district. Possession, with few exceptions, prevailed according to custom or usage, and not according to ancestral shares, and the revenue was paid according to occupancy. The only large village that I know of, which was held in zemindaree tenure, was Chuckramdass, in the Bhera Tahseel. There are instances of small zemindaree tenures in the Kaloowâl Tahseel, but this is owing chiefly to the villages having been established, and brought under cultivation, within a recent period.

Tenant right.

253. "The term 'hereditary cultivators' was not understood in the district of Shahpoor for several years after the annexation of the Punjab, but enquiries showed, that there were parties, who, though they had no claim to proprietary title, asserted a claim to cultivate the land in their possession, subject to the payment of a rent more favorable than was demanded from the mere tenant-at-will. These men had acquired their rights by one of two ways. They had either broken up the waste land, (generally land on the banks of the river), and were called "Abâdkârân," or Bunjurshigâfân," or they had sunk a well on the land

Certain pri-
veleges how
acquired.

The Settlement.

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" which they cultivated, or had cleared out and put into working order an old well, situated in the land they tilled.

254. " In either case, it was the custom to allow tenants of the above description a certain amount of indulgence, compared with ordinary tenants, in taking their rents by 'buttai' or 'kunkoot.' If the prevalent rate for 'buttai' was equal division between landlord and tenant, then the 'Abadkâr' or 'Bunjur Shigâf' was allowed to deduct, out of the crop, a certain portion, varying from one quarter to one-half of it." In what they consisted.

255. " In dealing then with cases of this description I was guided by the following principles, which were fixed by Mr. Thornton, the Commissioner, who had given a great deal of thought to the subject, having seen different phases of it in the Jhelum and Goojrat districts." Cases how dealt with.

256. " I first enquired whether the cultivator asserted any proprietary claim. As a rule, I found such a claim rarely raised. Among Mahomedans, the idea of hereditary property is very strong, and a man whose family has been all but one hundred years out of possession, is still popularly recognized as the owner of what once belonged to his ancestors. Generally speaking then, the cultivator at once answered that he was not the owner, but that such a person was." Claim to proprietorship seldom preferred by tenants.

257. " I then enquired what were the privileges which either party possessed, and generally found that the cultivator, after paying his share of the revenue, enjoyed whatever profit was left on his cultivation, giving only five per cent. on his quota of the Government demand (ordinarily in grain or kind) to the nominal proprietor; but the cultivator was not allowed to transfer his rights by sale, or gift, or mortgage." State of the case between proprietor and tenant.

258. " The circumstances which produced this condition of affairs had next to be considered, and if it turned out that the cultivator had been enjoying favorable terms, for such a length of time as to render it a matter of moral certainty that he must have reimbursed himself both the principal and the interest of his original outlay of capital or labor, then I settled, that for the future, he required nothing beyond a recognition of his right to occupy the land he held, subject to a fixed money payment, which in such cases I assessed at an increase of from 35 to 40 per cent.* on the jumma of the land, according" Cash rents fixed for tenants with rights of occupancy.

* This includes the extra cesses. Exclusive of these the highest rate of malikana paid by any cultivators is 25 per cent. on the jumma. W. G. D.

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"to the revenue rates prevailing in the village; as these rates were supposed to give the landlord a margin of profit equal to 50 per cent. of the net produce, by the arrangement above indicated the tenant with a right of occupancy paid at a fixed money rate, which was calculated to give him from 10 to 15 per cent. of the profits, while the remainder went to the landlord.

Certain cases specially provided for.

259. "In those instances where it was found that the expenditure incurred by the cultivator had not been made good to him, a certain number of years, varying with the circumstances of each case, were fixed, during which he was to pay at certain favorable rates, and after the lapse of the period so fixed, his rent was to be brought up to the standard of similarly circumstanced cultivators.

Arrangements made in regard to land irrigated from wells.

260. "But it was only in the 'bela' or 'sailab' land that an arrangement of the above nature could be made; where the land was dependent for its irrigation on a well, I was obliged to take into account, not only the original outlay, but the annual expenditure for wear and tear of the well and of its machinery; and as it is generally a very unsatisfactory arrangement to allow the landlord to undertake the repairs of the well, I always gave the cultivator the option of doing so, and, if he consented, then he was allowed to pay at revenue rates with an increase of from 12 to 18 per cent., which increase went to the proprietor as 'huq-malikana.' The difference between the 12 or 18 per cent., and the 50 per cent of profits, remained with the cultivator to enable him to make necessary repairs; the portion of the profits thus made over to the cultivator, varying of course with the nature of the repairs which he would probably be called on to execute. If the cultivator refused to undertake the execution of his own repairs, he received but a small share of the profits, the bulk going to the landlord, who was, in future, to be responsible for keeping the well in fair working order.*

* I find by a careful analysis that out of 1132 hereditary occupants of well lands, 564, or about half, keep the well in repair themselves, the proprietors being responsible for the repair of the wells irrigating the lands held by the remaining 568 cultivators.

Out of the former—

215	asamees pay from 5 to 10 p. ct.
241	" " 12 to 18 "
14	" " 20 to 25 "
90	" a lump sum in cash.
4	" varying rates in kind.

In the latter case—

91	cultivators pay from 5 to 10 p. ct.
88	" " 12 to 18 "
21	" " 20 to 25 "
71	" a lump sum in cash.
297	" varying rates in kind.

In addition to the above there are a few who with the consent of the proprietors are excused all payment on account of malikana. W. G. D.

The Settlement.

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261. "A condition was inserted in the administration paper, authorizing tenants with a right of occupancy "to sink wells, or make any other improvement for agricultural purposes that they might think fit, subject to the "understanding that such improvements did not in any way "damage the proprietary rights of the real owner.

Tenants with rights of occupancy allowed to sink wells.

262. "These remarks do not apply to the Kaloowâl "Tabseel, or the Zyl Moosa received by transfer from "Goojrât. In those parts of the district, the heavy assessments of the Sikh times had quite trampled out proprietary rights, and artizans, and village servants, and proprietors, all paid the Government revenue by an equal "rate, levied, generally speaking, on the number of ploughs "employed by each man. In these parts of the district, "cultivators of long standing were recorded as owners of "the land in their occupancy, and they paid their revenue "at the village revenue rates.* They had of course no "proprietary title in any of the village lands, except what "was in their actual possession as cultivators.

In certain tracts recorded as proprietors of their holdings.

263. "The judicial work cost my subordinates and myself a good deal of trouble. I have no returns by me from "which to speak positively on the subject, but to the best of "my belief, it will be found that the number of cases and "appeals, involving proprietary rights, decided in the Shahpoor settlement, equalled, if they did not exceed, the number of cases of a similar nature decided in any district with "an equal population and paying the same amount of revenue; and it must be borne in mind that we did not reckon "as judicial decisions cases regarding the status of "cultivators, unless any such case from its intricacy involved "the preparation of a regular record."†

Judicial work.

* There are fifty-six of these proprietors of their holdings (malik mukbooza) in the Moosa ('hoola talooqa. W. G. D.

† It is difficult owing to the changes which have taken place in the limits of the district, and the breaking up of its tahseels since Mr. Ouseley made the settlement, to institute a satisfactory comparison between the litigation of this and other districts. To show however that Mr. Ouseley is quite right in saying that the judicial work of the Shahpoor settlement was very heavy, I may mention the following facts. The number of cases, original and appeal, appertaining to the tract settled by Mr. Ouseley (still forming part of this district) were respectively no less than 14,742 and 1253, (for details see Appendix No. X), and this with a population of 2,94,119 souls, paying a jumma of 2,34,636 Rs.; while in the entire district of Goojrât, which contains a population of 5,00,167, and pays a revenue of 5,54,349 Rs. the litigation only amounted to, original suits 7727, appeals 775, or about half as many. Again, if the judicial work of both Mr. Ouseley's and my settlement be taken together as a whole, and compared with that of Goojrât, the preponderance of the former becomes still more apparent, the figures being respectively 22,030, to 8,502. This will convey some idea of the litigiousness of the people of this district. W. G. D.

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The Settlement.

Account of
Judicial work
continued.

264. Here again the continuity of the extracts from Mr. Ouseley's memo. must be broken off, to enable me to complete the account begun by him of the judicial work of the settlement, otherwise repetition and confusion would inevitably result; and I take this opportunity to explain that the remaining subjects treated of in the same paper will require so much amplification, that it will be impossible to quote from it continuously any more; but I shall endeavour so to interweave my additions with what Mr. Ouseley has written as to furnish as far as possible an unbroken narrative of the steps by which the remainder of the work of the settlement was brought to a close.

Tenures in
tracts subse-
quently set-
tled.

265. The prevailing tenure throughout the tracts of which I have made the settlement, is what is commonly known as "bhayachara," where the extent of possession is the measure of each man's rights; and if reference be had to the past history of the country, and the system of revenue management under the Sikhs, to say nothing of the vicissitudes to which societies and families are subject, even under the best ordered Government, it will not be a subject for surprise, that such should have been the result.

Causes that
led to this state
of property.

266. On the dissolution of the Moghul empire anarchy for a long time prevailed, during which the country became the theatre of incessant fighting of tribe with tribe, varied by the incursions of the Affghans. To this succeeded the grinding rule of the Sikhs, when, as has been very truly remarked, "the tendency was rather to abandon rights, "symbols more of misery than of benefit, than to contend "for their exact definition and enjoyment," and if these causes of themselves were insufficient to weaken the strong ties that bind the peasant to the soil of his fathers, the occurrence at times of famines and other calamities would concur in bringing about this result. Nor are these the only causes that would tend to disturb the original equilibrium, even where this had ever existed. Our every-day experience tells us, that the several members of a family are not equally gifted. One is provident, another reckless; one is pushing and active, while another is altogether wanting in energy. It is needless to say, that while the former passes unscathed through ordeals such as have been described above, the latter is forced to succumb to them. Again, under such a rule as the Sikhs, the former would probably succeed in making a friend of the ruler for the time being, and with his assistance would extend his possessions at the expense of his weaker brethren; and be it remembered *there was ordinarily no redress* should he presume on his influence to do this.

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267. These and such like causes combined to produce the state of things described, and the status, *as found to have existed for a long period*, was accepted as the basis of our future operations, both in our judicial decisions, and in the preparation of the record of rights and liabilities.* Pedigree tables had been drawn out in the first instance, but it was found, that although the genealogies of the village communities were well known, and there were often turnfs and puttees, or as they are called "vurhees," yet these had not been acted on for several generations. Possession in no way corresponded with shares, and the lands of proprietors of one nominal division were often found mixed up with those of another. The State dues during the Sikh times were, as before explained, taken in kind by "kunkoot" or "buttai," while items of common income, such as "dhurut," "kumeeana," and in the Thull "peevee," were appropriated by the head men on the pretence of defraying village expenses. Since annexation the revenue has for the most part been paid on holdings by a beegah rate, or by a distribution on ploughs, &c.

Judicial decisions based thereon.

268. From the foregoing description of the conditions under which proprietorship had existed, for a period long anterior to the supervention of British rule, it will be understood that *possession* was the fact mainly relied on in the decision of disputes connected with the title to land. Suits of this kind may be reduced to three classes:—

Classification of suits.

I. That in which parties out of possession sued those in possession for whole villages or for particular plots of land.

* I know it is held by the leaders of one school in the Punjab, that it is our mission, and duty, to provide a remedy for all the injustice committed during the rule to which we succeeded, but they do not appear to consider sufficiently if the cure is not worse than the disease: whether it does not cause greater suffering, violently to disturb a state of things to which by the lapse of time men have grown accustomed: and they would also seem to forget, that when settlement officers have been armed with judicial powers, they have not been placed *above the law*, but are bound to administer it as they find it, and that if a law of limitation is required in a country which has long enjoyed a settled Government, it is far more necessary in one which has gone through all the phases of anarchy and misrule. I rejoice to see that in differing from the views held by this school I am supported by a goodly array of experienced revenue officials, with the highest authority in this department at their head, who in writing but very lately on this subject, says: "The status of old owners could not be restored in the Punjab without a more complete revolution than has been effected by any of the armed hosts who have either invaded the country or held power in it for a time. The difficulty of obtaining reliable evidence, which increases with the lapse of time, may also be urged not only in favor of a law of limitation, but for not extending it beyond the period now fixed by law." W. G. D.

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II. That in which parties in possession of a certain portion of land sued a descendant of the common ancestor, in possession of a larger share, to obtain re-allotment in accordance with ancestral shares.

III. Claims by collaterals against widows, daughters or sons-in-law of a deceased sharer, either to obtain possession of the inheritance, or to restrain the parties in possession from alienating the same.

The classification might be extended further, but the above divisions comprehend the great mass of litigation; and a sufficient general idea will be conveyed of the latter by following this arrangement, and describing the arguments ordinarily put forward on both sides.

Claims of
Tiwana chiefs.

269. But before I speak of the petty litigation, it will be well to dispose of what, from the magnitude of the claim alone, must be considered as the "*cause celebre*" of this settlement. I refer to the claims preferred by the Mulicks of Mitha Tiwana.

270. These amounted to no less than the exclusive proprietorship of the Noorpoor Talooqua, consisting of twenty villages. The same of eleven out of twenty-two villages of the Mitha Tiwana Talooqua (the Dunda); and the superior proprietorship in the Sheikhoowāl Talooqua, eighteen estates, and in the remaining eleven villages of the Mitha Talooqua;—a tract of country constituting in area about two-thirds of the Khooshab Tahseel, and paying a revenue of fifty thousand rupees.

Features of
these cases.

271. The facts of the case were fortunately very simple. During the period that elapsed between the gradual break-up of the Moghul empire and the conquest of the Punjab by Runjeet Sing, the Tiwana chiefs had obtained and exercised independent authority over the greater part of the tracts claimed. In A. D. 1816, Runjeet Sing made himself master of the whole of these, and from that time till the death of Hurree Sing Nulwa in 1837, * the exiled chief Mullick Khan Mahomed, and his sons, lived as pensioners on the bounty of the Maharaja. When this latter event occurred, Futteh Khan, one of the grandsons of the Mullick, obtained from his patron Raja Dhyān Sing the farm of the ancestral Talooquas, and these he retained on and off till his death in 1848, altogether for twelve harvests, or six years, during a period of eleven years.

* See the first part of this report, paras. 80 to 87.

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272. The claims were clearly untenable; for these facts, which are not attempted to be denied, showed a dispossession of nearly fifty years. The claimants however urged, that their title had been kept alive by the farms which Futteh Khan had held, and by the receipt of a chaharum. But neither of these pleas were found to be good, for, as regards the farms, even if they had been held uninterruptedly, the tenure was but that of a revenue collector, and as such could not revive a title that had been absolutely extinct for nearly twenty years. And with respect to the chaharum, enquiry showed that the sunuds by which it had nominally been granted * had never been acted on. Further, admitting that the allowance was received for a season, it could only be looked upon in the light of the grant of so much revenue. And that the claimants did themselves so view it, is clear from the fact, that soon after annexation they based thereon a claim for an equivalent in the shape of a jageer, which, as I have related in para. 90, was given to them. On these and other grounds set forth at length in my judgment in the case, the claims were negatived as inadmissible.

Why considered inadmissible.

273. The remainder of the litigation, though simple in character, was, relatively to the population and revenue of the tracts out of which it arose, unprecedentedly heavy, the claims to proprietary right being no less than three fourths of the number decided in Mr. Ouseley's time, while the revenue was considerably less than a third of the revenue of the portions of the district settled by him. This will give some idea both of the extent to which property had risen in value, and of the tendency which our system has to foster litigation; and it may be added, with reference to this latter remark, that a large proportion of the claims preferred were shown to be utterly false and fictitious.

Petty litigation heavy.

274. Very strenuous efforts were made to recover possession of land of which the original proprietors had lost possession through accident, calamity, or as the result of their own improvidence, and fearful perjury was resorted to to obtain this end. Where the dispossession was beyond the period of limitation, it was generally alleged that the land claimed, had been either mortgaged or lent to the party in possession, but ordinarily no deed was forthcom-

Claims of the first class.

* I should say "they had been granted," for each of the claimants, Mullick Shere Mahomed and Mullick Futteh Shere, produce sunuds, the one dated only a month latter than the other, which virtually cancel each other, as I have shown in my judgment in the case. The fact is these sunuds were bribes to secure partisans when the State was split into parties and the effete ministry was seeking to strengthen itself against the army. W. G. D.

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ing, and as in the majority of the cases this was only a device to obtain hearing for a very antiquated claim, and the defendant had admitted long possession on his side, the suit failed in its object. In other cases, the party in possession, mistrustful of the validity of his prescriptive title, would foolishly seek to strengthen it by the production of a fictitious deed of sale; of course if he failed in establishing the genuineness of the deeds the plea was fatal, but I fear, that, in many instances, forged documents succeeded in passing for genuine ones, so carelessly were legal instruments of all kinds drawn up in former days. As often however as good grounds for believing that perjury or forgery had been committed, existed, a prosecution was instituted. In this way numbers paid the penalty of attempting to mislead the Courts, and I have reason to know that these proceedings were attended with the best results.

Those of the
second class.

275. The second class of cases were, as a rule, very simple, as enquiry everywhere showed, that, as far as the memory of living men carried them back, possession had been unequal, and had constituted the sole criterion for regulating each man's rights and liabilities. With few exceptions, therefore, claims to obtain re-allotment of land in accordance with ancestral shares were rejected. The exceptions were chiefly where land had been held undivided by the different members of one family, each having cultivated in accordance with his means and ability.

Third class.

276. The third description of cases were more embarrassing, because, while throughout the district, and more particularly among the Awâns, the feeling against landed property passing through females is very strong, the dictates of natural justice disincline from passing orders the effect of which will be suddenly to deprive a man of land which he has cultivated for many years, and has learned to look upon as his own. The voice of the country however was too strong to be directly opposed, and it was only by means of arbitration that, on the death of the widow, any portion of her deceased husband's inheritance could be reserved to her son-in-law. Attempts by the widow during her lifetime to effect the same object by means of a formal gift or fictitious sale of the property to the son-in-law, were invariably disallowed as opposed to local custom.

Claims to
irrigation
from hill tor-
rents.

277. Another description of cases peculiar to the Salt Range and the tract lying at its base, demands a passing notice, not so much on account of their number, as from the

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keenness with which they were contested. I speak of claims to share in the water of the hill torrents. The two modes in which this right is exercised have been described in para. 213, and need not be repeated. The issue was much the same in either case, viz: whether the right to irrigate by either of the two recognized modes existed, and had been enjoyed continuously or not; or whether the claimant's land had only received water by accidental overflow (called "oochhlâl") when the stream, bursting its banks, all came in for a share; and he it remarked that the distinction here indicated is a most important one, as those who have the right to divert the drainage into their fields benefit by every shower, however small, while those who are not included in this category only obtain water after heavy and continuous rain. Claims of this kind were as a rule decided *on the spot*. I insisted on this, as the evidence was often very conflicting, and in such cases an inspection of the features of the ground is usually of the greatest assistance towards arriving at a correct decision. When the orders came to be appealed to me I adopted the same rule.

278. Questions connected with tenant-right did not give much trouble, for the number of non-proprietary occupants of land here is very inferior to the number in the portions of the district of which Mr. Ouseley effected the settlement. The hills and the Mohar are the only tracts where cultivation is carried on to any large extent, and these divisions are held by brotherhoods of cultivating proprietors of the Awân tribe, with scarcely an outsider among them. The only exceptions are where whole villages belong to saintly characters, of which there are three in the Salt Range, and, in the Mohar, the villages owned by the Junjooa tribe. In the former, almost the entire cultivation is in the hands of non-proprietors, the proprietors taking their rents by "buttai" at easy rates, usually a third of the produce. In the latter, the Junjooa proprietors, through apathy and indifference, have allowed not only rights of occupancy to grow up, but have given opportunity to men of other tribes to creep in and supplant them in the proprietorship of a greater part of the lands still left to them by the Awâns. Of course these last are proprietors of their own holdings only, and have no share in the common land or common profits.

Tenant questions.

279. I have now come to the khewut, but before entering into any details of the mode in which the revenue is distributed and paid, I will quote the few words that Mr. Ouseley has on the subject in his memo. He says—

The khewut.

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Extract from
Mr Onseley's
memo.

280. "The preparation of a khewut is an easy matter if the measurement papers are correct, and the assessment light. No pains were spared to ensure the accuracy of the measurement papers, and I think I have said enough to show that the assessments were not heavy. Amongst other precautions for ensuring accuracy in the record of measurements, I may mention that every shareholder, and every tenant with a right of occupancy, was furnished with an extract from the khuteonee showing him every particular regarding the lands of which he had been recorded proprietor or tenant, so that every one had ample opportunity for satisfying themselves whether their interests had or had not been truly recorded. This proceeding cost a good deal of time, labor, and money, but it secured an accuracy in the settlement papers, which I feel certain could not have been otherwise attained amongst an ignorant people unacquainted with our revenue system."

General rule
for distribu-
tion of reve-
nue.

281. The tenures being as a rule "bhayachara," the jummas have been distributed primarily upon holdings, regard being had, wherever such distinctions exist, to the various qualities of soil, *e. g.* in the villages of the "Hethar" the distribution is on land subject to inundation ("sailab") and that artificially irrigated ("chahee"). In the mukka on irrigated, and unirrigated ("baranee"). In the hills on "hail," "maira" and "rukkr" &c. In zemindaree and purely putteedaree villages, the revenue is of course paid in accordance with ancestral shares, but as explained before, the number of estates held on these tenures is very small.

Special rule.

282. While however the general rule is as stated above, in some parts of the district peculiar modes of paying the revenue exist; these will now be described, and the causes that have led to their adoption.

The rule in
the "Bar" of
Bhera tahseel.

283. Past custom has had a large share in determining the mode of distributing the burden of taxation. In the Bar during the Sikh rule a house tax * of two rupees used to be collected from all the residents of the village, proprietors and non-proprietors, independent of the tirnee on cattle; and this custom has been kept up ever since, so that, of the jumma, a portion which falls at about the old rate is charged on houses, another and larger share on cattle, and the remainder is distributed rateably over the irrigated and unirrigated cultivated area, as recorded in the settlement papers. The two first sums are subject to annual "bach,"

* Called "Booha." This word is the Punjabi for "door."

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the last is fixed for the currency of the settlement. The above rule however only obtains in the Bhera Tahseel. The distribution in the Bar villages of the Shahpoor Tahseels is chiefly on wells, such having been the practice during the Sikh times in the Furooka * and Dera jara Talooquas, to which these estates mainly belong. Here, and elsewhere, wherever the primary distribution is on wells, payments are made according to *shares* in the wells.

Plan adopted in Shahpoor "Bar."

284. In the Thull the revenue is distributed partly on land, and the remainder on cattle. The former, as in the Bar, is a fixed sum distributed on recorded cultivation, irrigated and unirrigated, by far the greater part being of the latter class, which pays at an uniform rate of four annas an acre, the sum at which it was actually assessed. The quota charged on cattle, here also, is liable to re-allotment annually, camels for this purpose being rated at sixteen annas, buffaloes eight annas, cows four annas, and sheep and goats each one anna.

In the Thull.

285. In the tract called the "Dunda" the mode of payment is, in the main, the same; but there is this peculiarity in the distribution of the quota charged on land, that the *whole area included in separate holdings* bears a share of the burden, the uncultivated portion being assessed at from a fourth to an eighth of the rate payable on the area actually under cultivation. The reason for this will be found in the first part of the report, where I have described the system of agriculture in force in each natural division, and where, as regards this tract, it is shown that the site of cultivation is periodically changed, so as to allow long intervals of rest to the abandoned land. This arrangement further obviates the necessity of re-measurements, and re-distribution of assessment should great changes take place hereafter, *relatively*, in the extent of land cultivated by the several members of the village communities. The absence of some such compensating element was much felt during the currency of the summary settlement, and in some villages led to serious inconvenience.

In the "Dunda."

286. In the Molar, the whole of the burden falls on land. In the best villages, which enjoy the monopoly of the drainage from the Salt Range, and in which the distinctions in quality of soils are very strongly marked, the distribution is by soils. In the remainder, where the same differences do not exist, the revenue is divided uniformly over the area

In the "Molar."

* The Furooka Talooqua prior to annexation was attached to Jhung, and formed part of the territory held in farm by Sawun Mull and his son.

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under tillage as measured at settlement. At first it would appear as if this were scarcely fair to the owners of the inferior "rurheedar" land, but enquiry has shown, that where this rule of distribution has been adopted, the difference in quality of the inferior land has been made good to these, by the possession of waste land in larger quantities than that attached to the superior "naladar" land; and, be it remembered, the waste land *here* is not charged with any portion of the revenue.

The rule in
the Salt
Range.

287. Throughout the Salt Range, the revenue is distributed by soils, and so great is the difference in the productive powers of land in the best villages, that the zemindars have for this purpose carried the distinction of soils so far as to sub-divide the "hail" and "maira" lands each into two classes. In only a few of the very inferior estates has an uniform rate been adopted. I would here add, that the values assigned by the people themselves to the several kinds of land, to form the basis of the "bach," bear the strongest testimony to the correctness of the rates fixed by me, the ratios between the values and rates spoken of being almost identical in the great majority of cases, the difference, where such exists, being in favor of the *best* lands, whereas my rates were in favor of the *inferior* soils.

Revenue in-
stalments.

288. The revenue is paid in four instalments after the gathering in of the two harvests, that is, in the months of June and July for the spring, and December and February for the autumn harvest. The only exception is in the hills, where, owing to the rubbee crops ripening a month later than in the plains, special sanction has been obtained to postpone the collections on account of this harvest till the 15th July and 15th August.* The proportions however in which payments are made during the year, vary, to suit the circumstances of each natural division. In the Thull and Bar, where the major part of the revenue is contributed by the owners of the cattle, collections are made in four equal instalments; in the Salt Range "Hetbar" and "Nukka;" where the rubbee is the principal crop, the division is three and two-fifths respectively for the spring and autumn harvest; lastly, in the "Mohar" and "Dunda" the reverse of this is the rule.

Appointment
of lumberdars.

289. This would appear to be the proper place for explaining the principles on which the appointment of lumberdars has been made in this settlement. On this subject Mr. Ouseley has the following remarks :—

* See this office No. 77 of 7th August 1865, and Financial Commissioner's No. 4316 of 24th October 1865.

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290. "It was the aim of the settlement officer to appoint only one lumberdar for every five hundred rupees of revenue in each large village, but whenever, owing to internal disputes and enmities, it seemed necessary to have a separate lumberdar for each puttee, this rule was departed from. My impression is that on the whole the number of lumberdars throughout the district was diminished. Some villages (Jhawryan was one) used to have as many as eleven and fourteen lumberdars, now I think no village has more than six or seven."

Extract from Mr. Ouseley's memo.

291. For once Mr. Ouseley's memory has betrayed him into error; the number of lumberdars in the tracts settled by him was actually increased, and this was probably the result of leaving the determination of questions connected with the office to the subordinate judicial officers. The result, as regards the tahseels of Bhera and Shahpoor was, that the number of office bearers of this class rose from 969 to 1,126, and the average emoluments sunk to only ten rupees a year.

Number of lumberdars increased in Bhera and Shahpoor tahseels.

292. A different course was pursued in the remaining portions of the district. During the progress of the measurement, and while I was collecting data for the assessment, it became known to me, that when the first summary settlement was made, the old Sikh head-men, never having paid revenue in cash before, and fearing that they might be held liable in their persons and property on every, even the slightest, occasion of default, thinking to strengthen their position thereby, had associated with themselves a number of their relatives, and in fact any one who would join them in bearing an unknown and much dreaded responsibility. Enquiry also showed that during the Sikh rule, while each principal section in a village might have its managing head, yet there was usually but one man who was recognized by the local authority as the head-man of the village, and who received the lion's share of the "inam" allowed as a deduction from the collections. Under these circumstances it seemed to me that good policy and justice alike counselled a restoration of the former status, for it is clearly our object to have, in these men, a class which shall be possessed of some weight and authority in the country, and for this an income, which shall place each individual above the necessity of himself tilling the ground is a *sine qua non*, at the same time there were no long established rights to induce me to hesitate before applying the axe to an evil which was of comparatively recent growth.

In tracts subsequently settled different system pursued.

Reasons for the change.

293. After discussion with the Commissioner this plan was adopted. The orders in each case were passed by

Settlement officer selects

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the men him-
self.

myself, and as by the time this step in the settlement operations had to be taken, I had picked up all the necessary knowledge to enable me to work with confidence, I think I may say that few mistakes were made. Of course the removal of so many men from the office of head-man created a great deal of discontent, but the feeling was confined entirely to those immediately affected by the reductions, the population at large decidedly approved of what had been done. It is a source of much gratification to me to know that the measures adopted met with the hearty approval of my immediate superior, to whom I am deeply indebted for the manner in which he supported me in the performance of this invidious but most necessary operation.

Additional
payments re-
quired of cer-
tain classes.

294. I had almost forgotten to mention, in connection with this subject, that in all large villages where many outsiders had obtained a proprietary footing, an additional five per cent. has been imposed on these proprietors of their holdings, the proceeds going to the head lumberdar. Doubts were, at the time, expressed if the doubling of the allowance was legal, but it was explained that in reality there was nothing novel in the measure, that the extra allowance was in fact identical with the "warisana" imposed on the same class in the Jhelum and Rawul Pindee districts, but the amount being small, it was thought preferable to confer it on the only member of the community who under the Sikhi revenue system had enjoyed proprietary rights, than to fritter it away by dividing it among the whole proprietary body. It was added that, viewed in the light of an additional allowance to the head-man, the Government was fully competent to sanction the arrangements made, seeing that it had already in its executive capacity sanctioned the ordinary five per cent. lumberdaree allowance, which, it was remarked, rested on no legislative basis.

Putwaree's
circles.

295. Putwarees' circles were carefully adjusted, as one of the last steps in the settlement operations. The results will be found in a tabular form in Appendix No. XI, from which it will be seen, that the rule of not charging at a higher rate than three per cent. on the jummas of villages included in the circle, has been observed in the majority of cases. It is only in the Bar and in the Thull that a higher rate of remuneration has been fixed, and there no option presented itself, owing to the enormous areas of villages as compared with the revenue paid by them. The average amount annually receivable by these village accountants is a little over one hundred rupees. The highest salary assigned to any one putwaree is one hundred and fifty rupees, the lowest eighty rupees a year.

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296. I have now to describe the paper which professes to be a code of rules for the internal economy of each estate, or as it is technically styled in the language of the Courts, the "wajib-ool-urz." Agreeably to the plan hitherto observed, an extract on the subject from Mr. Ouseley's memo. will be first given, after which will follow an analysis of the contents of these important papers.

The administration paper.

297. "The administration papers were to a certain extent drawn out on a standard plan; it could not be otherwise, but it was my constant endeavour to impress on all the officers under me, that the record for each village was to be prepared so as to meet the requirements of each particular village. I did my utmost to keep all redundant matter out of these papers. Native settlement officials are prone to make a "wajib-ool-urz" a resumé of all the revenue regulations with which they are acquainted. I endeavoured as much as possible to keep the regulation law out of it, and to introduce instead, as much as I could of the local customs, and the *lex loci* of each village."

Extract from Mr. Ouseley's memo.

298. The following are the subjects regarding which rules and customs have been recorded in these papers. 1.—Division of common lands. 2.—Payment of revenue. 3.—Realization of balances. 4.—Transfers of land. 5.—Management of minor's property. 6.—Inheritance. 7.—Tenants with rights of occupancy. 8.—Tenants-at-will. 9.—Wells, Tanks, &c. 10.—Trees. 11.—Machinery, *e.g.* sugar and flour mills. 12.—Items of miscellaneous income. 13.—Village expenses. 14.—Jageers, maufees, &c. 15.—Absentees and revenue defaulters. 16.—Office of lumbaridar. 17.—Office of Putwaree. 18.—Village servants. 19.—Chowkedars. 20.—Grazing rules. 21.—Manure. 22.—Alluvion and Diluvion. 23.—Hill streams. 24.—Miscellaneous rules. This is a complete list of all the matters treated of in the administration papers, but of course the papers of each section of the district, only comprise those rules which are applicable to the particular circumstances of the tract concerned. Some of these subjects have already been fully discussed, and others relating, as they do, to matters which do not depend on the wishes of the people, need not be entered into; I shall therefore confine myself to a recital of the principal rules under the remaining headings of the code.

Detail of headings in code of rules.

299. *I. Division of common lands.*—The rule for the division of the village common lands in villages held on the bhayachara tenure (in which division can be claimed) is everywhere the same, that each co-parcener shall receive a share proportionate to his interest in the estate, as repre-

Rules regarding division of shamilat lands.

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sented by the quota of revenue recorded against his name in the khewut. But where land is held jointly by one or more sharers, the uncultivated portion of such separate holding is divisible in accordance with the ancestral shares of the parties. In zemindaree and putteedaree estates the division would of course be according to law and not custom. In the above general rule, the clause in parenthesis was necessary, because in the "Thull" and "Mohar," the only lands held in commonalty, are those reserved for grazing, and these the communities of those parts have agreed not to divide; and in the Salt Range, the hill slopes, (the only areas included in the same category) have been specially reserved as the property of the State.* Under this heading are also given the terms as to payment, on which parties may sink wells in, and cultivate portions of, the village shamilat, the proceeds being rateably divided among the whole proprietary body.

Transfers
and inheri-
tance.

300. *IV. Transfers, and VI. Inheritance.*—The rules under these two headings can best be given together. The general rule, in regard to inheritance, is that known as "pugvund," where all the sons of one father inherit alike. The contrary custom of "choonda-vund," or equal division between the issue of each wife, is the exception, and is chiefly found in villages held by Syuds, Qooreyshees and Puthâns, tribes in which polygamy is more commonly practised. Another generally recognized rule is, that female children shall only obtain a share in the inheritance when the father by the execution of a formal deed during his life-time has transferred to them a specific portion. Illegitimate children, and the issue of former husbands ("pichhlug"), are altogether excluded. In default of male issue, widows may inherit on a life tenure only, but they have no power to alienate any portion of the property by sale, gift, or mortgage, unless with the concurrence of the next of kin. In some few villages, provision has been made for the case, when the next heirs refuse to contribute towards such necessary expenses as the marriage of the deceased shareholder's daughters; in such cases the widow is allowed to raise money by selling or mortgaging the whole, or any portion, of the estate. During their life-time proprietors can of course, subject to the exercise of the right of pre-emption on the part of the remainder of the coparcenary, dispose of their land as they will. The only exceptions to the above rules as they affect widows, are in estates owned by Syuds,

* On this subject see Commissioner's No. 3218 of 10th October 1864, with its enclosure from Secretary to Government, and this office No. 66 of 12th December 1864. W. G. D.

Qooreyshees, Hindoos, and in some parts, Khokhurs, where owing to widows not being allowed to remarry, all restrictions on their power to dispose of the property of their deceased husbands have been removed.

301. *VII. Tenants with rights of occupancy.*—The rights and liabilities of this class are defined, with more or less fullness, in the administration papers of all villages where they are found. The following are the general rules. That the rent demandable from them having been fixed for the term of settlement, and entered in the *khuteône*, proprietors will limit their demands accordingly. If the rent is payable in kind, and the tenant make away with the produce, or wilfully grow inferior crops, the proprietor will be entitled to a decree for damages. Should the tenant extend his cultivation beyond the fields, in respect of which he is recorded as having the right of hereditary occupancy, he will, with regard to the excess, be on the footing of an ordinary tenant-at-will. He cannot sell or mortgage his rights, but may associate others with himself in tillage, or cultivate the land entirely through others. He may not cut trees growing on the fields in his occupancy, even for agricultural purposes, without the permission of the proprietors, nor may he sink wells. He is entitled to the exclusive use of the refuse, and manure of his own house, but he may not carry it to another village. The above may be said to be the lowest scale of rights enjoyed by this class. But in some parts of the district, as in the Bar, where land is of little value, and tillage is abandoned to the village servants; also in particular villages, where either the original proprietors have sunk into tenants, or where, as in "Wuddhun" near Bhera, Khutrees and others have succeeded in over-bearing the rights of the owners of the soil, vastly superior privileges have been accorded to the hereditary occupants, so that there is little but the terminable nature of the tenure, to distinguish them from full-blown proprietors, for they can sink wells, form gardens, cut wood, and in places even transfer their rights. There is, however, the saving clause, to which Mr. Ouseley alludes in his memo., everywhere attached, that the exercise of these rights shall not convert the occupancy of the tenant into a proprietary holding, and that, should he give up or lose his right of occupancy, he will not be entitled to any compensation for improvements effected by him. In those parts of the district, as in the "Dunda," where a portion of the revenue is distributed on uncultivated land, the hereditary cultivator may extend his cultivation without being called to pay anything additional, unless, indeed, he pays rent or *malikana* in kind.

Hereditary
cultivators.

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The Settlement.

Non-hereditary cultivators.

302. *VIII. Tenants-at-will.*—Regarding these, it is generally stipulated that should any change be made in the terms on which they hold land, written leases and kaboo-leuts must be executed, and notice given to the putwaree, that should the land-holder desire to eject his tenant, he must give notice of his intention at the beginning of the agricultural year. In some few villages, it is added, that this notice must be given at least two months before that period. It is needless to say that they have no other rights.

Rules for the use of wells and tanks.

303. *IX. Wells, Tanks, &c.*—Under this heading is specified, whether the proprietors or cultivators are responsible for keeping the well in gear. It is also generally laid down that the proprietor must repair the well as soon as it falls in, or sink a new one, and that he will not be excused payment of his quota of revenue on the occurrence of an accident of this kind. Regarding irrigation the general rule is, that each sharer in the well shall be entitled to water his fields continuously for twenty-four hours. In some villages this interval ("warce") is only twelve hours. Provision is also made for making good to the sharer, during whose turn an accident may happen, the time lost in repairing it, and for securing to out-siders associated in cultivation their fair share in the irrigation. Rules regarding tanks are only required in the arid plains of the Khoshab Tahseel, including the tract at the foot of the Salt Range, where little other water for drinking is obtainable. Here the use of the public and private tanks is strictly regulated, but the provisions on this subject need not be entered into further, than to say, that as long as water remains in the public tanks, which are usually close to the village, the village cattle are not allowed to be taken to the private tanks for water.

Rights in trees.

304. *X. Trees.*—The rules on this subject are few and simple. As a matter of course, trees growing in lands held in severalty belong to the shareholder in whose land they stand, and the same with regard to trees within the village site, with exception to such as are to be found within the courtyards of houses inhabited by any of the village servants, who have only rights in trees of their own planting. It is provided that proprietors may plant groves, and lay out gardens, but that doing this will not excuse them from paying the revenue assessed on the land so treated. The rule regarding trees growing on the boundaries of two adjacent fields, everywhere, except in the Salt Range and Mohar, is, that they shall belong half to the owner of each field, but in the tracts named it is laid down that trees in such positions are the exclusive property of the owner of

The Settlement.

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the field on the higher level; the reason for this is obvious, as the high embankments in these parts of the district, rendered necessary by the requirements of the peculiar system of irrigation in vogue, are raised at the expense of the owner of the land benefitting by them. Under this heading is also to be found the stipulation, entered by Mr. E. Thornton's orders, requiring each proprietor of a well to set apart a certain portion of the area as a nursery for trees, and annually to plant them out along the water-courses, and on the ridges of fields.*

305. *XII. Items of miscellaneous income.*—These consist of the following: 1.—Kumeeana. 2.—Fees on Saltpetre manufactories. 3.—Dhurut. 4.—“Peevee.” Each of these require a few words to be said in explanation. Kameeana is, as its name imports, the fund formed of fees paid by village artizans and other non-proprietors for the privilege of residing and exercising their calling in towns and villages. It is paid everywhere except in the Bar, where, as before stated, a portion of the revenue is distributed over houses. In towns the proceeds are appropriated by Government; in villages they are at the disposal of the proprietary communities, and are devoted either to paying the chowkedar or defraying village expenses. In villages within the boundaries of which “ahlis,” or saltpetre mounds, exist in favorable situations, parties manufacturing the salt pay a fee of one rupee per pan for the privilege of digging earth. The proceeds of this source of common income is divided by the proprietors rateably on their revenue liabilities. Dhurut is the sum which is paid for the monopoly of weighing by the party who succeeds in obtaining the appointment of village “dhurwai,” or weighman, he himself taking something, as his wage, from both seller and buyer. During the Sikh times this was one of the many perquisites of the village representatives; now, where taken, it goes to defray some portion of the village expenses. “Peevee” is the income from fees paid by travelling merchants for watering their cattle at the wells in the *Thull*. The fee is nowhere else levied, the proceeds as in the case of Dhurut go to reduce the “mulba.” The amount is never very great.

Division of
common per-
quisites.

306. *XIII. Village expenses.*—In all the papers of villages settled by Mr. Ouseley, one uniform condition, to the following effect, has been recorded, that the following items only shall be chargeable to the village, viz:—tulabana on dustuks; the putwaree's writing materials; cost of feeding indigent travellers; expenditure incurred by lumber-

“Mulba.”

* See Commissioner's letter No. 107 of 24th March 1855.

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The Settlement.

dars when employed on business connected with the village. These items to be entered, as incurred, in the putwaree's journal, failing which, the lumberdar shall not be entitled to recover. The total expenditure not to exceed five per cent on the jumma. But this system was found not to work well; constant disputes took place between the headmen and their co-sharers, and the materials for a satisfactory decision were seldom forthcoming; and as repeated applications were made to me to commute the fluctuating charge to a fixed annual sum, I determined to adopt this principle in the tracts of which I was making the settlement; accordingly, a fixed per-centage on the jummas has been entered in the administration papers of all those villages, the scale adopted being that prescribed in Financial Book Circular No. 4 of 1860. I may say that this is much preferred to the other plan by the people themselves.

Provisions
for payment of
dues to vil-
lage servants.

307. *XVIII. Village Servants.*—These consist of the village carpenter, blacksmith, shoemaker, potter, barber and sweeper. Each has his appointed work, and in return for his services, receives certain fixed dues from the proprietors at each harvest, which dues of course vary in proportion to the work that is required of each servant; for instance, in the tracts where tillage is mainly dependent on wells, the potters receive from 3 to 4 pais, equivalent to from 20 to 25 seers of grain, at each harvest; on the other hand, in the regions where artificial irrigation is unknown, they receive nothing. In the same way, the rates of remuneration to the other village servants vary according to the demand on their labor, influenced by the peculiar circumstances of each division of the district. A statement containing a list of the village servants, the service required of each, and the rate of remuneration to which they are severally entitled, forms part of the record of each village.

Grazing
rules.

308. *XX. Grazing Rules.*—These are only required in the Bar and Thull villages, and are generally to the effect, in the former tract, that the cattle of outsiders, grazing in the village common lands, will be included in the annual distribution of the sum assessed on cattle, and in the latter, that such cattle, if allowed to graze in the village pasture grounds, will be charged at certain fixed rates specified in this section of the *wajib-ool-urz*, the proceeds being devoted to reducing the quota payable by the cattle of the village itself.

Action of
rivers.

309. *XXII. Alluvion and Diluvion.*—On this important subject there were originally only two clauses in the papers of villages bordering on the rivers. One, the ordinary

The Settlement.

[Part II

ten per cent rule, and the other, declaring the village custom in regard to the payment of revenue of land carried away, in cases where no remission of revenue is allowed. To these a third has been added, since my incumbency, defining the principles on which claims to lands recovered from the river shall be adjudicated. Each of these requires notice, the last more particularly.

310. The ten per cent rule may be very good, and is the means doubtless of saving a great deal of trouble where, as on the Ganges, villages are held by single proprietors; but where, as in the Punjab, land is very minutely divided, the rule is altogether inapplicable. For example, there is a village not far from Shahpoor, called Jhawryan, of which the revenue, nearly 5,000 rupees, is paid by 403 separate proprietors. Now, under the rule spoken of, no remission could be obtained by this estate, until it had lost land paying 500 rupees, which is equivalent to saying, until forty khewutdars had been brought to the verge of ruin! The harsh bearing of the rule was brought to Mr. Melvill's notice in 1863, and he made, I believe, a reference on the subject to the Financial Commissioner, but up to the present time nothing has resulted; in the meantime, as such a rule could not be acted on, it has been systematically ignored, at least, as long as I have held charge of the district.

As this affects
the Govern-
ment demand.

311. In regard to the second point, by far the most sensible and humane custom is to be found in the villages lying along the Chenab river. In their papers it is provided, that should the land of any co-sharer be carried away and no remission of revenue follow, the loss will be borne rateably by the whole of the proprietary body, until the land is recovered, when it will be restored to the former proprietor. But in the administration papers of the villages on the Jhelum, it is ruled that the proprietor shall continue to pay the quota of revenue assessed on the lost land, as long as he remains in the village, and it is only on the fulfilment of this condition that he will be entitled to receive possession of the land when recovered from the river. The rest of the proprietors will only pay the revenue, if he executes a deed resigning all claim to the land when required. This is a very harsh rule, and of course renders the bearing of the ten per cent regulation still harder than it would otherwise be, yet the people, including even those suffering from its operation, have repeatedly refused to modify their recorded custom.

As this affects
the proprie-
tary bodies.

312. The necessity for some recognized principle on which to decide claims to large tracts of alluvial land, early

Claims to
newly farmed

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The Settlement.

land how to be decided.

forced itself on my notice, owing to a custom, prevailing on the Jhelum river, having been ignored in a dispute of this kind, decided a short time before my arrival in the district. The case was much talked of, and was the immediate cause of my making a reference, which resulted in my obtaining permission both to revise the erroneous decision referred to, and to add, after due enquiry, a clause to this section in the administration papers defining the usages for the decision of such claims on both rivers. * The custom, which from time immemorial has been in force on the Jhelum, is that locally known by the name of "wârpâr-bunna." The words literally mean a boundary on either side, but the phrase is commonly accepted to mean, that the river is not considered as a boundary at all; that the original area of the estate is *alone* looked to, and, whether in the bed of the river or out of it, the lands comprised within those limits remain for ever a part of the estate. The rule probably had its origin in the fickle nature of the stream, and was devised by the original settlers on both banks for their mutual protection. However this may be, there is no doubt of the existence of the custom; this was clearly established by enquiry of the zemindars of villages on both banks of the river, and is further attested by the fact that a large proportion of estates so situated *have land on both banks*. Nothing can be theoretically fairer than the rule, and no great difficulty is experienced in its practical application, now that a regular survey and settlement of the estates on both banks have been made. On the Chenab, on the other hand, enquiry showed that in such cases the usage known as the "sikundree hudd" law has always prevailed. This rule is precisely that prescribed for observance in sections IV and V of Regulation XI of 1825, viz: that where land is gained by gradual accession, it shall be considered an increment to the estate to whose land it is thus annexed, but not when the river by a sudden change of course transfers a portion of land from one estate to another, without destroying the identity of the land so removed. These two different customs have been duly recorded in the administration papers of all river villages, each, where it was found to prevail.

Cost of the settlement.

313. I have now, I think, described each successive step by which the settlement operations in this district have been completed, and there only now remains for me to add, in conclusion, a few lines explanatory of the cost

* See this office No. 17 of--July 1863, Commissioner's No. 2085, of 4th August, and Financial Commissioner's No. 3080, of 15th August, of the same year.

The Settlement.

[Part II.]

incurred, with remarks on one or two matters not yet touched upon.

314. The total expenditure, it will be seen by referring to appendix No. XII, has been no less than 1,75,240 rupees, or about 42 per cent on the revenue of the tracts settled. This is very high, but it will not fail to be noticed, that while the rates of cost to jumma of the first part of the settlement was 53 per cent, that of the second did not exceed 12 per cent. This is not said with a view to taking credit for the superior economy of the latter operations, but as a preliminary to explaining the causes to which the difference is due. For the settlement conducted by Mr. Ouseley special establishments on a large scale were entertained, and for some time two Extra Assistants were employed under him, whose pay was of course charged to the settlement; by referring to the details in the statement of expenditure, it will be seen, that nearly half the entire expenditure consisted of the salaries of officers and their amla. On the other hand, nearly the whole of the work in the settlement effected under my orders, was performed by the existing district establishments. The best Tahseldar was invested with the powers of a Superintendent for the time, and subsequently a Naib Tahseldar, who had, up to that time, done the work of a sudder moonserim, received judicial powers also; a few writers were entertained for each of these, and with the staff of supervisors spoken of in para 209, formed the only establishment specially kept up for the settlement. The rest of the work was done by putwarries. I must not omit to mention, however, that the hudbust operations had been completed every where but in the Noorpoor Talooqua, when I took charge. One result of this way of doing work, has been that the work had been spread over a longer period, but this is not to be regretted if, as I believe, the quality of the work has been improved thereby.

Expenditure
on the whole
high.

315. In the beginning of this part of the report, the causes that led to a partial suspension of settlement operations were explained, but one result of the desultory manner in which the work has been carried on and of the lengthened period over which it has in consequence extended, has still to be noticed; I speak of the want of coincidence in the periods fixed for the duration of the settlement in different parts of the district. These, as entered in the settlement records, are as follows :—

Term of set-
tlement not
uniform
throughout
the district.

Part II.]

The Settlement.

In the records of villages forming part of the Bhera Tahseel, as constituted in Mr. Ouseley's time, from Rubbee Sumbut 1913 to Khureef Sumbut 1922.

" " " forming part of the Shahpoor Tahseel, as then constituted, from Khureef Sumbut 1913 to Rubbee Sumbut 1923.

" " " forming part of the Kaloowâl Tehseel, as constituted at the same period, from Rubbee Sumbut 1915 to Khureef Sumbut 1924.

" " " forming part of the Khoshab Tahseel, as *now* constituted (excluding the three pergunnahs of Girôt, Jowra, and Khoshab, which were settled with Shahpoor) from Rubbee Sumbut 1921 to Khureef Sumbut 1930.

It should be added that 109 of the Kaloowâl villages were transferred to the Jhung district in May 1861, and the remainder added to the Bhera Tahseel, as explained in para 11 of the introduction. Thus it will be seen, that the terms of all the settlements have expired with the exception of those of the villages of the Kaloowâl Tahseel added to Bhera, and of that portion of the district of which I have made the settlement. I must leave the Government to decide whether it will not be best to fix one date to which the settlement of every part of the district shall extend.

Subjects remaining for discussion.

316. There are still two subjects on which I wish to say a few words, before giving the concluding extract from Mr. Ouseley's memo., and winding up this long report with a notice of the Judicial officers who have worked under me. These are (1) irrigation works, and (2) the management of rukhs.

Applications for wasteland.

317. It has already been remarked that cultivation by means of inundation canals from the Jhelum is likely to be largely extended. I would now add that the officer who holds charge of this district during the next ten years, will have to exercise great discrimination in disposing of applications for waste land. He will be inundated with them, and he will often be at a loss to decide which to entertain favorably and which to reject. Having had some experience in dealing with such applications, I may be permitted to lay down this axiom for future guidance, that no application be entertained until the applicant has shown that he has both the required

How to be treated for the future.

capital for the proposed undertaking, and that he *honestly intends* to carry it out ; that his real object is not under cover of a clearing-lease to obtain a grass preserve on easy terms for a long period. There are a number of small blocks of waste land within easy distance of the river, which only require a cut thence to be made into them, in order to convert them in a marvellously short time into sheets of cultivation, but for this a combination of local influence, energy, and capital are indispensable ; where the applicant possesses these, there need be no hesitation, and all that remains to be done is to bind him down to complete within a moderate period, the most essential part of the undertaking, the canal, the rest will follow of itself as a matter of course. But to save useless expenditure of capital, it will always be well, whenever this can conveniently be accomplished, to have a few levels carried along the proposed line of excavation, remembering that the same area which might be reclaimed from waste in one season, at a comparatively small cost by means of a canal, would require the expenditure of a far larger amount of time, capital, and labor, to obtain the same result by means of wells, and that if the canal turns out a failure the enterprise is generally abandoned.

318. With regard to the management of rukhs, I would draw attention to a letter I wrote on the subject in 1864* in which I pointed out the evils of the system of annually putting up the grazing leases to auction. What I there wrote applies with tenfold force to the rukhs in the Noorpoor and Mitha talooqua, the leases of which, under that mode of realizing the revenues, would be annually purchased over the heads of the people by the wealthy mullicks of Mitha Tiwana, who thus having secured the monopoly of pasturage, might charge what fees they chose, and otherwise harass the people in a variety of ways. Under the sanction quoted in the note to this paragraph, the greater part of these Government preserves has been leased for periods of two and three years. The experience already obtained of the working of this system, warrants me in advocating its continuance ; it saves those to whom the grazing is a necessity from much annoyance at the hands of an unprincipled set of men, and the time of the courts from being taken up with the decision of a most unsatisfactory class of cases ; and under it, there need be no sacrifice of revenue, as the grazing in a certain number of the rukhs will probably always have to be put up to auction, and the bids at these sales will serve as an index

Management
of Rukhs.

* No. 50 of 7th May and subsequent correspondence, ending with Financial Commissioner's No. 2065 of 20th June 1864.

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to the value of grazing for the time being, and a guide in fixing the sum to be demanded for the leases of the remainder.

Extract from
Mr. Ouseley's
memorandum.

The excel-
lence of the
work mainly
attributable to
him.

319. I must now give a very characteristic paragraph with which Mr. Ouseley winds up his memorandum, if only to refute that portion in which he modestly disclaims all credit for the work carried out under his orders: he writes as follows—"It does not become me to assume credit for "the goodness of work which was done by the officers over "whom I was placed, and I feel that I ought to be cautious "in claiming credit for the working of a settlement which, "if it has worked well, is mainly owing to the care and skill "of those officers who have had to nurse and watch it; but "still making due allowance for this care and skill, I must "make bold to say, that the work that was done by the staff "placed under me, must by this time have borne testimony "for good or evil. If the work, for which I was responsible, "has turned out badly, it is to little purpose that I should "explain how I unconsciously fell into error; but if the work "has stood the test of time, I hope that circumstances may "be allowed to weigh in the balance against the meagre and "tardy way in which I have recorded the mode in which "that work was performed, and the labor and pains which "it cost." I cannot allow this passage to go forth, without placing on record my conviction, derived from four years study of all the details of his work, that there are few settlements in India which have owed more to the officers who have presided over them, than has the settlement of the Shahpoor district to Mr. Ouseley. Entirely devoted to the task, keenly alive to the large interests at stake, with a strong sense of justice, which if it often led to great delays, seldom ended in miscarriage, and with indomitable perseverance and self sacrifice, he carried out the work to a most successful issue, making his presence felt in every branch and at every stage of its progress; no one, who has not had the opportunities which I have had of close scrutiny, can tell how literally true this is, but even a slight acquaintance with the district and its inhabitants, would be sufficient to convince any one, how much the latter are indebted to his thoughtful care for their welfare, for to this, the people themselves bear witness, his name is always in their mouths, and is never mentioned but with marks of respect and affection; indeed, it is not too much to say that the name of Ouseley has passed with them into a household word.

Notice of
officers em-

320. Of the officers who worked with him, Mr. Ouseley writes to the following effect: "It is now almost too late

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"for me to record what the district of Shahpoor owes to the exertions of the officers who served in the settlement department. If anything good is to be seen in the *general principles* on which the work was conducted, or in the mode in which difficult questions connected with conflicting interests have been dealt with, the credit is due to Mr. E. Thornton, who, as Commissioner of the Division, exercised a thoughtful and untiring supervision; whatever in the *details* of the settlement may appear worthy of praise, is owing to the experience, intelligence, and industry of Pundit Motee Lal; two better men for settlement work could not I think be found than Bukhtawar Lal Tahseldar of Bhera, and Ramsahae formerly Peshkar of the Saiwâl "Tahseel."

employed under Mr. Ouseley.

Pundit Motee Lal.
Bukhtawar Lal and Ramsahae.

321. To the above I must add my acknowledgments also for great assistance received from Bukhtawar Lal. On the conviction of the acting Superintendent, Goolab Rae, of malpractices in July 1863, Bukhtawar Lal was transferred from his substantive appointment as Tahseldar of Bhera, to the settlement then going on in the Khoshab Tahseel, and from that time till his removal to the Goojrat settlement, he worked very hard. Bukhtawar Lal is a painstaking, conscientious officer, and bears a high character for integrity. Having now served in this department in different capacities for fifteen years, it is needless to say that he possesses a most intimate knowledge of all the details of the work. I trust that Bukhtawar Lal's services in the settlement of this district will receive the reward which they deserve.

Services of officers employed under Captain Davies.

Bukhtawar Lal Superintendent.

322. Subordinate to Bukhtawar Lal, but in no way his inferior in the qualities that go to make up a good Judicial officer, was Hurbuns Lal, now Naib Tahseldar of Shahpoor. For some time Hurbuns Lal served as a Sudder Moonserim, or head of the establishment employed in supervising the measurements and preparation of the record, and in that capacity gave me every satisfaction. On an opportunity afterwards occurring, he was promoted to his present post, still however continuing to serve in the settlement, and soon after, (July 1864,) on my recommendation he was invested with Judicial powers. In the exercise of these powers Hurbuns Lal has shown excellent judgment, and a patient desire always to arrive at the truth, in fact, with one exception, there is not a better Judicial officer in the district.

Hurbuns Lal Naib Tahseldar.

323. Lastly, I would wish briefly to acknowledge the assistance I have invariably received from Meer Golam Hosein, one of the writers in the office, but who has acted

Meer Golam Hosein settlement Shearistadar.

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as my Sheristadar for the greater part of the time I have been in the district. To a thorough knowledge of the work in all its details, he joins untiring industry, and his general intelligence, combined with a remarkably tenacious memory, render him a most useful public servant.

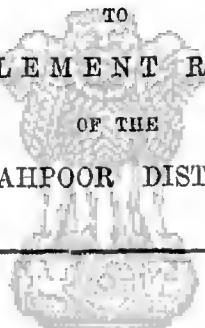
324. In conclusion, I trust that this report will show, that in the performance of my share of the whole work, of which it is a record, I have not spared myself, and that if defects should be discovered hereafter, it may be borne in mind that, during the whole time, I held administrative charge of the district also, a duty which is, of itself, sufficient to occupy the time and thoughts of one officer.

SHAHPOOR,
Settlement office,
The 17th September 1866.

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.



APPENDICES
TO
SETTLEMENT REPORT
OF THE
SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.



सत्यमेव जयते

APPENDIX No. I.

LIST OF FERRIES ATTACHED TO THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT

Number.	Tahseel to which attached.	Ferries.	SUMS REALIZED DURING FIVE YEARS.					Average of five years collections.
			1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.	
1	Bhera, ...	Kohlian, ...	348	351	348	240	312	320
2	Ditto, ...	Boonga Soorkhroo,	216	255	252	192	384	262
3	Shahpoor,	Sudda Kumboh,	120	216	152	180	300	194
4	Ditto,	Dhak, ...	228	252	264	216	312	254
5	Ditto,	Chachur, ...	252	279	336	348	492	341
6	Ditto,	Shahpoor, ...	180	174	144	108	114	144
7	Khoshab,	Khoshab, ...	1,884	1,944	1,944	1,596	2,052	1,884
8	Ditto,	Tunkeewala, ...	120	150	132	108	156	133
9	Ditto,	Humoka, ...	108	87	120	60	204	116
10	Ditto,	Sheikhowal, ...	150	150	168	144	168	156
11	Ditto,	Thutthee Hurgun,	192	162	180	132	228	179
12	Ditto,	Lungerwala, ...	570	600	540	540	696	629
13	Ditto,	Teytree, ...	312	276	188	240	228	249
14	Ditto,	Jowra, ...	384	468	504	516	600	494
15	Ditto,	Majoka, ...	220	192	204	192	240	210
TOTALS, ...			5,284	5,556	5,476	4,812	6,486	5,523

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
The 17th September 1866. }

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX No. II.

STATEMENT, IN ACRES, OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OF SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

Number.	Name of Talucl.	1	2	RUBBEE.		KHURREE.	
				No. of villages.			
3	647	286	142	99,117	3,34,658	1,08,514	1,27,027
4	53,542	31,054	13,636	8,852	Minhai, bahun & Judeed.		
5	2,81,116	77,460	1,13,391	90,265	Wheat.		
6	1,31,224	39,046	47,926	44,252	Barley.		
7	10,005	5,448	1,921	2,636	Gram.		
8	639	382	154	108	Musoor.		
9	1,004	278	61	665	Johanco.		
10	403	397	6	12	Chenna.		
11	151	138	4	9	Onion.		
12	126	82	44	14	Pease.		
13	708	278	103	327	Poppy.		
14	1	1	...	16	Mustard.		
15	10,501	5,221	809	4,471	Turnips.		
16	2,033	296	1,738	...	Sweet Melons.		
17	1,466	33	1,314	189	Tura Neerna.		
18	35	32	...	8	Carrots.		
19	124	39	79	6	Vegetables.		
20	434	22	7	405	Linseed.		
21	509	...	94	415	Miscellaneous.		
22	1,69,102	54,880	55,894	58,328	Total.		
23	16,802	6,761	2,593	6,448	Jowar.		
24	21,879	7,120	43,743	8,552	Cotton.		
25	2,155	900	442	813	Moong.		
26	191	60	12	119	Mash.		
27	2,696	546	562	1,588	Thil.		
28	5,099	602	1,313	3,184	Moth.		
29	894	11	...	383	Paddy.		
30	602	8	221	373	Mulkaas.		
31	6	6	...	...	Red Pepper.		
32	204	204	...	...	Sawaik.		
33	3,835	1,492	504	1,839	Chenna.		
34	109	18	56	36	Vegetables.		
35	1,033	...	...	1,033	Sugar-cane.		
36	806	...	...	36	Mehdee.		
37	119,194	22,580	57,477	31,937	Miscellaneous.		
38	408	Total.		

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
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W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

ABSTRACT CENSUS STATEMENT

Religion.	Tribe.	NUMBER OF								
		A G R I C U L T U R A L.							N O N-	
		Adult.			Non-adult.			Total.	Adult.	
		Male.	Female.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
M A N.	Syud, ...	1,528	1,206	2,734	870	758	1,628	4,862	698	607
	Quooreishee, ...	610	552	1,162	321	207	628	1,790	116	124
	Khokhur, ...	2,685	2,305	4,990	1,616	1,440	3,056	8,046	671	552
	Ranjha, ...	499	383	882	298	247	545	1,427	84	78
	Jhummut, ...	895	724	1,619	527	510	1,037	2,656	89	92
	Beloch, ...	1,151	990	2,141	651	529	1,180	3,321	1,712	1,338
	Gondul, ...	2,562	2,112	4,674	2,475	1,806	4,281	8,955	542	470
	Awân, ...	7,730	7,112	14,842	5,572	4,978	10,510	25,392	879	932
	Bhuttee, ...	1,096	897	1,991	773	739	1,512	3,503	340	321
	Mekun, ...	1,202	857	2,059	624	541	1,165	3,224	229	215
	Tiwana, ...	251	237	488	155	119	274	762	65	63
	Junjoon, ...	541	513	1,054	338	330	668	1,722	68	78
	Total, ...	20,748	17,888	38,636	14,220	12,304	26,524	63,160	5,493	4,865
M O O S U L M A N.	Mulyar, ...	1,228	1,064	2,292	775	618	1,396	3,688	394	295
	Machhee, ...	1,271	653	1,924	520	488	1,008	2,932	1,664	1,422
	Koomâr, ...	849	613	1,462	442	431	873	2,335	2,065	1,759
	Mochee, ...	474	394	868	257	254	511	1,379	2,858	2,607
	Tirkhan, ...	926	733	1,659	538	467	1,005	2,664	1,316	1,289
	Naic, ...	666	446	1,112	435	272	707	1,819	1,166	977
	Paðlee, ...	240	184	424	134	100	234	658	4,909	4,451
	Dhubba, ...	224	156	380	115	100	225	605	851	812
	Loohâr, ...	413	335	748	373	339	712	1,460	868	753
	Total, ...	6,291	4,578	10,869	3,592	3,079	6,671	17,540	16,091	14,395
	Miscellaneous,...	17,974	13,973	31,947	10,814	10,137	20,951	52,898	17,550	14,397
	Total Moosulman.	54,013	36,439	81,452	28,626	25,520	54,146	1,35,598	39,134	33,657
H I N D O O.	Khuthree, ...	699	494	1,193	341	293	634	1,827	5,482	4,947
	Brahmin, ...	203	145	348	85	73	158	506	1,423	1,203
	Arorâ, ...	1,070	792	1,862	601	464	1,065	2,927	9,339	7,794
	Total, ...	1,972	1,431	3,403	1,027	830	1,857	5,260	26,244	13,944
	Miscellaneous,...	92	46	138	33	29	62	200	1,026	812
	Total Hindoo,	2,064	1,477	3,541	1,060	859	1,919	5,460	17,270	14,756
	GRAND TOTAL,	47,077	37,916	84,993	29,696	26,379	56,065	1,41,058	56,404	48,413

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
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No. III.
OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

PERSONS.												
AGRICULTURAL.					Grand Total.	Per-centage of men to women.	Per-centage of boys to girls.	Per-centage of total male to total female.	No. of houses.	Average No. of persons to each house.	No. of ploughs.	No. of bullocks employed in cultivation.
Total.	Non-adult.			Total.								
12	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Total.	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1,805	410	359	769	2,074	6,436	81	95	83	2,227	2.91	1,164	2,328
240	75	64	139	379	2,169	93	89	90	642	3.37	409	818
1,223	302	291	593	1,816	9,862	86	78	87	2,531	3.88	2,137	4,274
162	49	27	76	238	1,665	79	95	79	782	2.12	454½	909
181	61	50	111	292	2,948	82	84	87	961	3.7	729½	1,459
3,050	949	814	1,763	4,813	8,134	81	71	82	2,673	3.7	919	1,838
1,012	343	213	556	1,568	10,523	83	89	77	3,734	2.78	2,158	4,316
1,811	519	462	981	2,792	28,184	93	93	91	7,544	3.73	6,798	18,596
661	244	212	456	1,117	4,620	85	84	88	1,432	3.22	994	1,988
444	162	122	284	728	3,952	76	85	78	1,367	2.28	1,996	3,952
128	28	38	66	194	956	94	97	91	115	8.32	160	320
141	30	28	58	199	1,921	96	97	96	482	3.15	468	936
10,358	3,172	2,680	5,852	16,210	81,370	86	80	86	24,540	3.22	18,367	36,734
689	219	189	408	1,097	4,785	84	85	82	1,297	3.69	899	1,798
3,086	985	913	1,898	4,984	7,916	70	93	78	3,443	2.29	480½	961
3,824	1,214	1,114	2,328	6,152	8,187	80	92	85	3,508	2.41	377½	755
5,465	1,715	1,669	3,384	8,849	10,228	90	97	94	4,060	2.51	272	544
2,605	889	914	1,803	4,408	7,072	90	96	92	2,611	2.71	537	1,074
2,143	707	613	1,320	3,463	5,252	77	77	77	1,450	3.64	320	640
9,360	2,923	2,779	5,702	15,062	15,720	90	94	91	5,692	2.76	137	274
1,693	504	441	945	2,638	3,243	92	80	92	1,220	2.65	126½	253
1,621	507	413	920	2,541	4,001	83	85	85	1,101	3.62	264½	529
30,486	9,663	9,045	18,708	49,194	66,734	84	99	87	24,382	2.3	3,414	6,828
31,947	9,055	8,644	17,699	49,646	1,02,544	79	94	85	28,040	3.6	12,388	24,776
72,791	21,890	20,369	42,259	1,15,050	2,50,618	83	90	79	76,962	1.9	34,169	68,338
10,429	2,748	2,043	4,791	15,220	17,047	88	65	83	7,030	2.3	445	890
2,626	680	582	1,262	3,888	4,344	80	85	83	1,260	3.48	102½	205
17,133	3,503	3,996	7,499	24,632	27,559	72	108	89	11,370	2.42	576	1,152
30,188	6,931	6,621	13,552	43,740	49,000	84	93	87	19,660	2.4	1,123½	2,247
1,838	562	452	1,014	2,852	3,052	76	80	78	1,217	2.50	49½	99
32,026	7,493	7,073	14,566	46,592	52,052	83	92	83	20,877	2.49	1,173	2,346
1,04,817	29,383	27,442	56,825	1,61,642	3,02,700	73	91	92	97,839	3.62	35,342	70,684

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE CONDITION OF INDIG-

NAME OF TAHSEEL.	Number of villages where Schools are held.	NUMBER OF YEARS INSTITUTED.						SCHOOLS WHERE HELD.				INSTRUC- TORS HOW PAID.		INSTRUCTOR RE INC		
		Above 30 years.	Above 20 years.	Above 10 years.	Above 5 years.	Below 5 years.	Total.	In places built for the purpose.	In Instructors' houses.	In Musjids or Dhurm- salas.	Miscellaneous places.	Number of Instructors.	Without remuneration.	With salary.	In land.	In cash.
Bhera, ...	87	52	5	17	3	10	87	...	5	81	1	78	...	87	124	1,501
Khoshab, ...	84	27	18	26	9	4	84	...	14	70	...	84	...	84	205	1,398
Shahpoor, ...	62	33	4	13	3	9	62	...	2	60	...	62	...	62	121	1,553
TOTAL, ...	233	112	27	56	15	23	233	...	21	211	1	233	...	233	450	4,452

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No. IV.

ENOUS EDUCATION IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

REIVING OME.		Number of pupils.	NUMBER OF PUPILS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO CREED AND CASTE.						NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ARRANG- ED ACCORDING TO LANGUAGE.						NUMBER OF PUPILS STUDYING THESE LANGUAGE					
In grain, amount in maunds.	Equivalent value in cash.		Mahomedans.	Sikhs.	Hindoo.				Goormookkee.	Samscrit.	Hindee.	Persian.	Arabic.	Oordoo.	Goormookkee.	Samscrit.	Hindee.	Persian.	Arabic.	Oordoo.
					Khuttree.	Brahmins.	Arora.	Miscellaneous.												
...	...	1,554	1,388	18	120	23	65	...	5	1	2	6	72	1	31	55	25	89	1,324	30
...	...	1,199	1,008	28	28	12	129	...	9	1	3	1	70	...	131	10	50	15	993	...
...	...	1,263	1,044	100	35	4	80	...	7	...	...	2	53	...	212	...	...	48	1,003	...
...	...	4,016	3,380	146	183	39	268	...	21	2	5	9	195	1	374	65	75	152	3,320	30

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Office.

APPENDIX No. V.

LIST OF OBJECTS OF ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST IN THE
SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

No.	Name of locality.	Name of object of antiquarian interest.	DESCRIPTION OF THE SAME.
1	Bhera, ...	Jāma Musjid,	A fine old Musjid of the time of Sher Shah, contemporary with the founding of the city, A. H. 947. The mosque has lately been restored.
2	Vijjhee, ... (Tahseel Bhera).	Subz Pind, (near Mianee),	One of the most conspicuous of the numerous mounds which abound in every direction throughout the district, and tell of a much higher state of prosperity than any now existing, and attest the truth of the Greek accounts of hundreds of large cities and a country teeming with population. (see Strabo Lib. XV Chapter I Section 33).
3	Tukht Hazara,	Tomb of Shah Rookun Alum,	The ruins show that once a very large town existed here. In the jumma bundee of the "Sircar Doaba Juch" given in the "Aieen-i-Akburee," the Mahāl of Hazara is stated to have had a brick fort, and to have paid a revenue of 46,89,136 dams, or 1,17,228 Rs. Among the ruins here, is the tomb of Rookun Alum. This place has obtained celebrity as the scene of a romance which rivals the story of "Laila and Mujnoo" in extravagance. Not a peasant in the province but knows the tale of "Ranjha and Heer."
4	Hadalee, ...	A bāolee, musjid and tank.	These works are all attributed to Sher Shah. The former is one of several such works called in the language of the country "Wān." The story goes, that the Emperor during a royal progress through the Punjab, caused one of these monster wells to be sunk at every stage. The tank covers about an acre of land—it is now however completely choked up; its name "Sur Moonara," evidently refers to the pillars (Moonara) the remains of which are still visible.
5	Goonjral, ...	Bāolee, ...	The same as the bāolee at Hadalee, and said to have been constructed at the same period. The two villages of Goonjral and Utterāh, separated from each other by about a quarter of a mile only, are commonly called "Waukyla" from this well.
6	Kutha gorge,	Sutghara, ...	The remains of a mighty dam for distributing the waters of the Vahee or Kutha torrent. The work is attributed to Sher Shah: some refer its construction to a more remote period.

Appendix No. V.—*Continued.*

No.	Name of localities.	Name of object of antiquarian interest.	DESCRIPTION OF THE SAME.
7	Kuthā gorge,	Nur Sing, Phoār,	A very ancient Hindoo shrine, dating according to their tradition from one of Vishnū's Avatars when he descended in the form of a lion ("Nur Sing"). Pilgrimages are made to it all the year round, and melas held on certain fixed dates. Maharaja Goolab Sing built a temple here some forty years ago.
8	Umb, ...	Hindoo ruin,	An imposing old ruin, with every appearance of being of Buddhist construction. Round the ruins are to be seen what are evidently the remains of an old fort. Tradition places the date of its erection at five hundred years prior to the Mahomedan era, but it is probably older.
9	Shah Eusof,...	Khangah, of Shah Eusof,	A mausoleum, said to have been erected in A. H. 900, or 368 years ago, by a holy man of that name, a stranger from the west, to whom the charity of the inhabitants of Mangowal assigned sufficient land for his support. His descendants still hold the land and reside on the spot. The building, through of elegant form, is of very moderate dimensions, and is ornamented outside with colored tiles.
10	Punj Peer, ...	Khangah, Nowguzza, (giant's tomb),	The graves here are of extraordinary dimensions, nine yards long, as the name imports. They are built on the ruined site of what must have been a large city, to which tradition assigns a fabulous antiquity, nothing less than five thousand years. The Hindoo story is, that this is one of the resting places of the exiled Pandoos, and hence call it Punj Pandoo; but the Mahomedans, according to their custom, while reverencing the site as holy, have changed its title to Punj Peer to make it harmonize with their language and religion.
11	Chuek Sanoo,	Chuck Sauoo;	This, like the last, is the remains of a once flourishing town, but probably of more modern date. It was founded by a once powerful tribe named "Toollah," of which a few impoverished members still reside on the spot. The town was burned and razed with the ground by Noor-ood-deen Bannizey, one of Ahmed Shah's generals.

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

ABSTRACT OF GENERAL STATEMENT, IN

NAME OF TANSEEL.	NUMBER OF VILLAGE.			Average jumma of past five years.	Jumma realized during the year pre- vious to settlement.	Proposed Jumma.	TOTAL	DETAIL		
	Khalsa.	Jageer.	Total.				AREA.	DEDUCT MINHAEE.		
							Acres.	Barren.	Lukheraj.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bhera, ...	262	7	269	1,32,530	1,29,879	1,23,689	6,20,535	26,686	38,764	65,450
Khoshab, ...	127	15	142	1,48,726	1,49,143	1,42,131	10,83,044	2,72,880	2,573	2,75,453
Shahpoor, ...	228	8	236	1,11,051	1,09,215	1,10,917	2,90,049	12,703	9,841	22,544
Total, ...	617	30	647	3,92,307	3,88,237	3,76,737	19,93,628	3,12,269	51,178	3,63,447

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No. VI.

ACRES (No. V) OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

OF AREA IN ACRES.						Assessment on total area per acre. .	Ditto on total malgozaree land cul- tivated and culturable per acre.	Ditto on land under cultivation per acre.
CULTURABLE.		CULTIVATED.			Total of Malgozaree.			
Culturable.	Lately abandoned.	Irrigated.	Not irrigated	Total cultivation.				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
4,55,968	5,042	60,633	33,442	94,075	5,55,085	... 3 2 ...	3 6	1 5 ...
6,81,087	8,186	10,070	1,03,248	1,18,318	8,07,585	... 2 1 ...	2 9	1 3 2
1,58,991	23,359	55,905	29,250	85,155	2,67,505	... 6 2 ...	6 8	1 4 10
12,96,046	36,587	1,26,608	1,70,940	2,97,548	16,30,181	... 3 ...	3 6	1 4 3

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT SHOWING DETAILS OF PROPRIETORY HOLDINGS, CUL-

		AREA, IN ACRES.										PROPRIETORS.					
Name of Tahseel.		Number.		CULTIVATED.										Total number. Average of land owned by each proprietor. Average of land cultivated by each proprietor. Average amount of jumma paid by each proprietor.			
		1	2	No. of villages.		Barren &c.	Culturable.	By cultivators.				Grand Total.					
				3	4			By proprietors.	Hereditary.	Non-hereditary.	Total.						
													5					6	7	8	9	10	11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
1	Bhera,	...	269	1,23,689	33,293	4,55,968	75,511	4,097	19,409	23,506	99,117	5,88,378	11,184	52.60	8.86	11-1-6	
2	Khoshlab,	...	142	1,41,906	2,75,430	6,85,660	96,797	6,924	18,239	25,163	1,21,954	10,83,044	14,504	74.71	8.39	9-11-11	
4	Shahpoor,	...	236	1,10,917	22,544	1,58,991	64,664	6,000	37,850	43,850	1,08,514	2,90,049	7,953	36.47	13.65	13-15-1	
Total,		...	647	3,76,512	3,31,267	13,00,619	2,37,066	17,021	75,498	92,519	3,29,585	19,61,471	33,641	58.30	9.79	11-2-10	

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No. VII.

TIVATION AND REVENUE LIABILITIES IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

CULTIVATORS.				PER CENT.		LUMBERDARS.				MAHALS.			
			Total number.	17									
			Hereditary.	18									
			Non-hereditary.	19									
			Average amount of land in occupancy of each cultivator.	20									
			Average amount of land in occupancy of each hereditary cultivator.	21									
			Average amount of land in occupancy of each non-hereditary cultivator.	22									
			Total of proprietors and cultivators.	23									
			Proprietors.	24									
			Non-proprietors.	25									
			No. of lumberdars.	26									
			No. of proprietors.	27									
			Average of proprietors to each lumberdar.	28									
			Average amount of jumma collected by each lumberdar.	29									
			Average amount of land in the jurisdiction of each lumberdar.	30									
			Average No. of lumberdars to each Mahal.	31									
			Average No. of acres to each Mahal.	32									
			Average amount of jumma to each Mahal.	33									
			Average No. of cultivators to each Mahal.	34									
			Average No. of proprietors to each Mahal.	35									
			Average of proprietors and cultivators to each Mahal.	36									
21,335	5,444	5,464	10,427										
4,565	815	1,450	2,301										
16,769	4,629	4,014	8,126										
4'35	8'05	4'59	2'25										
3'72	7'36	4'76	1'78										
4'50	8'17	4'53	2'38										
54,976	13,397	19,968	21,611										
61	51	72	52										
39	49	28	48										
1,405	471	277	657										
32,236	7,482	14,227	10,527										
'22'95	15'88	51'63	16'02										
267-12-8	235-7-10	513-1-9	188-4-2										
4,396-94	615-81	3,932-64	895-55										
2'17	2	1'95	2'44										
3,033-91	1,229-02	7,670-08	2,187-27*										
551-9-6	469-15-9	1,000-12-0	460-12-11										
32-98	23-06	38-55	38										
52-03	33-69	102-66	41-8										
85-01	56-76	139-08	80-33										

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX No. VIII.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF JAGEERS HELD IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT WITH REFERENCES TO CORRESPONDENCE CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Number.	Name of Jageerdars.	Name of jageer villages.	Amount of jumma.	Total of each.	Grand Total.	Period for which granted.	REMARKS.
1	Mullick Futteh Sher Khan Tiwana, Ditto,	Koond, ...	2,193			In perpetuity.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 1641, of 21st August 1850.
		Kirpalké, ...	475	2,668			
	Ditto, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto,	Oote rae, ...	900			For life.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 1386, of 31st January 1860.
		Roda, ...	223				
		Lookkoo, ...	50				
		Sheikhoo, ...	60				
		Mungoor, ...	93				
		Mahomed Shah, ...	116	1,444	4,112		
	2	Mullick Sher Mahomed Khan, Tiwana, ...	Jubbee, ...	5,000		In perpetuity.	Same authority as in the case of Mullick Futteh Sher Khan's Jageer.
			Jowra, ...	688			
		Ditto, ...	Sigwâl, ...	54		For life.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 3346 of 31st May 1859.
		Ditto, ...	Kotla, ...	178	5,920		
		Ditto, ...	Boonga Sigwâl, ...	50			
	Ditto, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto,	Tectree, ...	550			For life.	
		Chaudee, ...	54				
		Khichee, ...	375	1,029	6,949		
3	Mullick Alum Sher Khan, Tiwana, Ditto,	Sheikhowâl, ...	328			In perpetuity.	Same authority as in Futteh Sher Khan's case.
		Mohra, ...	300	628	628		
4	Mullick Sher Bahadur Khan, Tiwana, Ditto,	Futtehpoor, ...	700			Ditto,	Ditto ditto.
		Gogochukkee, ...	216	916	916		
		Carried over,			12,605		

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Appendix No. VIII.—Continued

Number.	Name of Jagcerdar.	Name of jageer villages.	Amount of jumma.	Total of each.	Grand Total.	Period for which granted.	REMARKS.
	<i>Brought forward, ...</i>		...	...	12,605		
5	Mullick Ahmed Khan, } Tiwana, ... } Ditto, ... }	Joweah, ... Hamoka, ...	300 935	1,235	1,235	In perpetuity.	Same authority as in Mullick Futteh Sher Khan's case
6	Mobaruck Khan, Be- } looch, ... } Ditto, ... } Ditto, ... } Ditto, ... } Ditto, ... }	Thuttee Yaroo, ... Jhok Mun- goor, ... Keyla, ... Muglawala, ... Noon, ...	325 511 308 750 1,125	3,019	3,019	Ditto,	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 1590, of 16th August 1850.
7	Sirdar Uttur Sing, ...	Nowshera, ...	4,100	4,100	4,100	Ditto,	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's letter No. 2675 of 15th September 1859.
8	Mullick Sahib Khan, } Tiwana, ... } Ditto, ... } Ditto, ... }	Mégha, ... Sydül, ... Busra, ...	750 250 200	1,200	1,200	For life.	Do. do., in Secretary's letter No. 386 of 31st January 1860.
9	Syed Sooltan Ahmed Shah, }	Boonga, } Ichral, }	336	336	336	In perpetuity.	Do. do., in Secretary's letter No. 295 of 14th January 1853.
10	Sooltan Mohamed Awân, }	Jhoonga } Saloe, }	400	400	400	For life.	Do. do., in Secretary's letter No. 1,472 of 14th March 1856.
		GRAND TOTAL		Rs.	22,895		

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT EXHIBITING RESULTS OF MAUFEE INVESTIGATIONS

NAME OF TAHSEEL.	No. OF CASES.			RESUMED.			RELEASED.					
	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	IN PERPETUITY.			FOR THE MAIN- TENANCE OF INSTITUTION.		
							Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.
Bhera, ...	499	25,109	13,578	275	7,871	7,736	17	326	370	28	2,760	2,635
Shahpoor, ...	196	17,051	10,001	111	3,835	2,448	24	9,485	5,461	4	246	153
Khoshab, ...	325	11,567	10,022	245	4,768	5,546	10	4,037	2,488	13	1,156	383
TOTAL, ...	1,020	53,727	39,201	631	16,474	15,730	50	13,848	8,319	45	4,162	3,170

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
The 17th September 1866. }

No. IX.

IN THE TRACTS COMPRISED IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

ED.						DETAIL OF MAUFEES GRANTED FOR SUPPORT OF INSTITUTIONS.									
FOR LIFE.			TOTAL.			HINDOO.			MOOSUL- MAN.			TOTAL.			R E M A I N S.
Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	
179	14,152	7,837	224	17,238	10,842	32	2,947	2,840	13	139	165	45	3,086	3,005	Since May 1863, of the Maufees released for life 1009 acres assessed at Rs. 907 have lapsed.
57	3,485	2,539	85	13,216	8,153	14	6,147	2,230	8	180	101	22	6,327	2,331	
57	1,606	1,606	80	6,799	4,476	11	919	157	2	290	311	13	1,209	468	
293	19,243	11,982	389	37,253	23,471	57	10,013	5,227	23	609	577	80	10,622	5,804	

R E M A I N S.

Since May 1863, of the Maufees released for life 1009 acres assessed
at Rs. 907 have lapsed.

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF JUDICIAL AND OTHER BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Number.	Name of Officers.	Extent of service.	JUDICIAL CASES.							
			Boundary disputes.	Entire villages.	Shares or portions of land and other rights such as irrigation.	Division amalgamation or exchange of villages.	Release or resumption of rent-free plots.	Disputes regarding share of assessment allotted to land.	Disputes regarding lumberdaree.	Do., regarding status of cultivators or demand for which they are liable.
1	Mr. G. Ousley, Settlement Officer, ...	From May 1854 to 8th March 1860, ...	1	16	258	1	200	43	15	3
2	Mr. D. C. Macnabb, Officiating Settlement Officer, ...	From 9th March 1860 to 10th August 1861, ...	...	...	10	...	72	1	...	...
3	Captain W. G. Davies, Settlement Officer, ...	From 26th July 1862 to April 1866, ...	...	26	104	...	...	...	89	...
4	Other Officers, ...	Various, ...	...	...	42	...	...	...	2	...
		Total, ...	1	42	414	1	272	44	106	3
1	Mr. Thompson, Extra Assistant Commissioner, ...	From 11th June 1854 to 3rd March 1855, ...	115	...	22	...	2	...	...	...
2	Mahomed Buksb, ditto, ...	From May 1854 to 17th January 1856, ...	165	25	435	5	19	4	132	18
3	Pundit Motee Lall, ditto, ...	From 26th January 1856 to 3rd June 1861, ...	15	40	3,113	78	115	322	240	225
4	Bukhtawur Lall, Superintendent, ...	From 11th April 1856 to 15th December 1865, ...	37	46	4,908	19	168	239	270	141
5	Hurbunse Lall, Naib Tahseeldar, ...	From 12 August 1864 to April 1866, ...	...	7	1,211	...	...	...	1	48
6	Other Officers, ...	Various, ...	13	...	130	9	...	3	9	..
		Total, ...	345	118	9,819	111	304	568	652	432
		GRAND TOTAL, ...	346	160	10,233	112	576	612	758	435

Shahpoo, Settlement Office, }
The 17th September 1866. }

No. X.

IN THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

Appeal cases.	MEASUREMENT AND KHIEWUT.							Miscellaneous matters relating to measurement.	Total of Judicial measurement and miscellaneous cases.	Measurement made; area in acres.	Assessments announced.	Miscellaneous proceedings.	Grand Total.
	Total.	Village Hud-bust maps prepared.	Preparation of genealogical trees and statement of shares.	Villages measured.	Khuteonces prepared.	Khewut ditto.	Total.						
1,012	1,549	...	...	561	...	...	561	32	2,142	9,86,788	2,71,400	1,498	3,635
192	275	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	282	...	691	198	480
766	985	...	...	86	...	...	86	...	171	10,06,840	1,04,471	557	1,628
113	157	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157	...	175	50	207
2,083	2,065	...	...	647	...	...	647	39	3,652	19,93,628	3,76,737	2,298	5,950
...	139	309	...	...	...	...	309	55	503	...	...	653	1,156
...	803	252	150	...	...	...	402	132	1,137	...	...	589	1,926
...	4,148	...	382	...	393	393	1,118	252	5,518	...	...	3,586	9,104
...	5,828	19	165	...	254	252	690	181	6,699	...	...	2,447	9,146
...	1,267	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	1,269	...	...	348	1,617
...	164	67	...	...	...	...	67	...	231	...	...	51	282
...	12,349	647	647	...	647	647	2,588	620	15,557	...	...	7,674	23,231
2,083	15,315	647	647	647	647	647	3,235	659	19,920	19,93,628	3,76,737	9,972	29,181

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBERS JURISDICTIONS AND

NAME OF TAHSEEL.	Number of Mehals or estates.	Number of circles of manage- ment.	Number of Putwarees.	Total area in acres.	Total of new jumma.	Average number of Mehals to each Putwaree.	Average jumma allotted to each Putwaree.
Bhera, ...	277	41	41	7,52,245	1,27,531	6.75	3,111
Khoshab, ...	142	44	47	15,89,878	1,44,220	3.	3,069
Shahpoor, ...	251	36	37	6,54,637	1,17,210	6.78	3,168
TOTAL, ...	670	121	125	29,96,760	3,88,961	5.36	3,112

Shahpoor Settlement Office, }
The 17th September, 1866. }

No. XI.

SALARIES OF PUTWAREES OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

No. of PUTWAREES CIRCLES ACCORDING TO NEW RATES OF SALARY.					Total amount of salary per annum.		Average amount of pay per Putwarree per annum.	
@ R. A. P. 3 0 0 per cent. on jumma.	@ R. A. P. 3 8 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 4 0 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 5 0 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 5 14 0 per cent.				
22	...	4	14	1	4,059	7...	99	...
29	2	8	8	...	4,961	5...	105	8 10
25	...	3	9	...	4,044	1...	110	10 5
76	2	15	31	1	13,114	13...	104	14 7

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN REVISING

NAME OF OFFICERS.	No. of villages.	Junma of regular settlement.	Name of Pergunnahs.	SETTLEMENT EXPENDITURE.					
				Hud-bust.	Measurement.	Purtal.	Khuteonce.	Khewut.	Total.
Mr. G. Ouseley,	670	3,04,295	Bhera, Shahpoor Kaloowal and part of Khoshab, ...	4,417	23,753 189	15,200	20,935	64,494	
Captain W. G. Davies, ...	86	1,04,076	Remaining portion of Khoshab (86 villages), ...	...	555 ...	...	3,885	4,440	
TOTAL, ...	756	4,08,371		4,417	24,308 189	15,200	24,820	68,934	

REMARKS.—Of the whole area settled by Mr. Ouseley, 109 villages paying a revenue of Rs. 1861-62, as explained in para. 11 of the Introduction.

*Shahpoor Settlement Office, }
The 17th September, 1886. }*

No XII.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE.						SALARY OF OFFICERS AND UMLAS.						Grand Total.	Per-centage of expenditure on revenue of villages settled.
Salary of Office Mohurris.	Salary of Putwarces.	Hire.	Stationery.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	OFFICERS.			UMLAS.				
						Salary.	Deputation allowance.	Travelling allowance.	Salary.	Travelling allowance.			
6,204	...	2,580	9,040	3,524	21,348	35,082	2,150	5,247	29,892	4,665	77,036	1,62,878	53
...	5,040	150	572	364	6,126	...	...	...	1,464	332	1,796	12,362	12
6,204	5,040	2,730	9,612	3,888	27,474	35,082	2,150	5,247	31,356	4,996	78,832	1,75,240	42

32,776 were transferred to the Jhung district, from the commencement of the financial year

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

FROM

HONORABLE E. L. BRANDRETH, ESQUIRE,
Commissioner Rawul Pinddee.

TO

J. A. E. MILLER, ESQUIRE,
Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.
Dated 1st November 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit Captain Davies' report, with maps accompanying, of the settlement of the Shahpoor district. The settlement was commenced by Mr. Ouseley, who completed, though without reporting, the settlement of what formed the district of Shahpoor as then constituted. A portion of what was settled by Mr. Ouseley was transferred to Jhung; great additions were subsequently made to Shahpoor from other sides, on the various occasions when the districts in this part of the Punjab were remodelled. These additions were to such an extent that they comprise nearly one-half of the district as now constituted; it is these additional tracts that Captain Davies has settled, but his report describes the settlement of the whole district, including Mr. Ouseley's settlement, as well as his own.

2. The district as now constituted contains an area of 4,682 square miles, of which not much more than a tenth is cultivated. It is divided by the river Jhelum into two nearly equal portions, of which Captain Davies gives a very clear and good description. The southern portion, on the left bank of the Jhelum, and lying between that river and the Chenab, yields double the revenue of the other half of the district, and is divided into two Tahseels; it has the usual features of the Bar tracts observable in other parts of the Punjab, consisting of the fertile and highly cultivated alluvial land along the course of the rivers, while the central part of the Doab, properly called the "Bar," consists of hard soil, covered principally with Peelo trees, not cultivated except here and there where there are hollows in the otherwise continuous plain, but affording extensive pasture grounds.

3. It appears however that the Bar was in former times much more densely peopled than it is at present; it is full of the deserted sites of villages, and the water used to be much nearer the surface than it is at present; water is at present some 60 feet below the surface, but in a memo. by Mr. Ouseley, from which Captain Davies quotes, it is stated that there are traces of old brick wells which are not more than 25 feet deep, so that when these wells were used the water must have been very near the surface indeed. Captain

Davies adds that the same result has been observed in many other parts of the Punjab, and he therefore thinks it probable that a general depression in the water-level has taken place throughout the province.

4. The physical features of the other half of the district on the right bank of the Jhelum, which forms only one Tahseel, are more curious and varied; the main features of which described by Captain Davies are the Salt Range, with its lakes and elevated fertile valleys, which produce such wonderful crops of wheat owing to the fertilizing influence of the lime brought down by the drainage from the surrounding peaks: the Mohar, or plains extending along the base of the Salt Range, with exceptional fertile spots, as where they are watered by fresh springs out of the Salt Range, but for the most part uncultivated, impregnated with salt, and producing little vegetation except the Kureel bush: and the Thull, the country to the south of the Salt Range, but beyond the influence of its drainage, consisting for the most part of a sea of sand, with occasional fertile spots between the waves; but there are here and there, Captain Davies says, long belts of perfectly level ground, which under artificial irrigation, the water being from 45 to 60 feet below the surface, produce excellent crops.

5. Captain Davies next describes the two great rivers of his district, the Chenab and the Jhelum, of which the Jhelum from its more extensive floods and better alluvial deposits is the most fertilizing; while the benefits derived from this river have been still further extended during the last few years by inundation canals. The first of these was cleared by Mr. MacNabb, but several additional canals have been dug under Captain Davies' encouragement; the system of inundation canals is not new to the district, as is evidenced, Captain Davies says, by the many remains of such works to be met with along the edge of the Bar, but all of them had long ago fallen into disuse and silted up.

6. Among the products of the district the salt, saltpetre and soda are noticed. Of these the saltpetre manufacture has greatly declined, while the demand for soda (sajji) is increasing every year; a revenue of upwards of 8,000 rupees per annum is now derived from the lease of the manufacturing monopoly. Besides salt, sajee and grain, the principal exports of the district are wool, cotton, and opium. There has been a great increase in the cultivation of the poppy of late years; nearly the whole of the opium produced is exported; about 3,000 acres are now cultivated with the poppy, and the value of the opium produced at Rs. 10 per maund Captain Davies estimates at Rs. 1,30,000.

7. Captain Davies' account of the tribes is illustrated by an excellent map shewing the distribution of the most important tribes. It will be seen that nearly the whole agricultural population is Mahomedan. Most of the tribes are converted Hindoos; but two the Awan and Beelooch tribes, are of foreign origin. The Awans are the most important and numerous tribe in the dis-

trict. They occupy not only the whole Salt Range, part of the Shahpoor district, but the entire western portion of the Jhelum district. From these tracts they expelled the ancient tribe of the Junjooahs, by whom the Salt Range and adjacent upper plains were before possessed. Mr. A. Brandreth, in his Jhelum Settlement Report, supposes that the Awans came from Herat, less than 250 years ago; and the Emperor Babur, who in his autobiography gives such a minute account of the Salt Range and neighbouring country, and of the tribe of the Junjooahs who dwelt there, as Captain Davies points out, makes no mention whatever of the Awans. It is strange that so little should be known of the circumstances under which this large and important tribe invaded and settled in the country.

The daily life and habits of the people, their mode of computing time, their dress, ornaments and dwelling houses are next described by Captain Davies; these last are built of the materials that come most readily to hand, of stone in the Salt Range, of grass and wood in the Thull, and of clay in the other parts of the district.

9. The past history of the district is well described by Captain Davies, especially where it is of interest as leading up to the present circumstances of some of the principal families in the district. After briefly telling us what is known of the territory forming the present district of Shahpoor during the decline of the Mahomedan power and subsequent anarchical period, he describes more in detail its political sub-division immediately previous to its final subjugation by Runjeet Sing; these sub-divisions are shewn in an excellent map which accompanies the report. At that time about half the district was held by the Bhungee and Sookur Chukea misls, and the other half by a Belooch chief named Futteh Khan, and by Mullick Khan Mahomed Tiwana; some Syuds also in and about Shahpoor had rendered themselves independent.

10. After the subjugation of the district by Runjeet Sing, Futteh Khan Tiwana, son of Mullick Khan Mahomed, succeeded in obtaining his former possession in farm, though he was deprived of his farm after Runjeet Sing's death; but in consequence of the signal services rendered during the Mooltan rebellion, and again during the mutiny, by Futteh Shere Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan, the first the son, the second the nephew, of Futteh Khan, these two principal representatives of the Tiwana family now enjoy as a jagir under the British Government a considerable portion of their former possessions. To Lungar Khan, the son of the Belooch Chief Futteh Khan, Runjeet Sing gave a jagir worth 3,000 Rs. per annum out of his former possessions. Lungar Khan did good service during the Mooltan rebellion; and his jagir was confirmed in perpetuity. The present jagirdar is Moobarick Khan, son of Lungar Khan. The descendants of the former Syud rulers have no jagirs, but still hold the greater part of the land in Shahpoor and its neighbourhood. The only Sikh Chief who has retained any interest in the district is Attar Sing Lumba, son of Sirdar Goormookh Sing, one of Runjeet Sing's most successful generals. He holds in jagir the estate of Nowshera, worth about 4,000 rupees per annum.

11. The principal towns of the district are Bhera, Saiwâl, Khoshab and Meeani; of these Bhera is the largest and finest; it is built throughout of pukka bricks, and has a population of 14,000 souls. Meeani is the great depôt of the salt trade, being beyond the Customs line; Khooshab is the principal mart on the river from which the surplus produce of the district, such as grain, wool, ghee, &c., is sent down in country boats to Mooltan and Sukkur.

12. Captain Davies concludes his general description of the district, with brief notices of the roads; state of education; principal shrines and religious festivals; and the antiquities of the district.

13. Captain Davies next describes the settlement, to which, as might be expected, the greater portion of his report is devoted. The work was commenced by Mr. Ouseley in 1854, and carried on by that officer with considerable interruption, occasioned by the mutiny and its results, until 1860, when he left the district. What little work remained to complete the settlement of what formed the Shahpoor district as originally constituted, was completed by Pundit Motee Lall; but the large tracts of country, with an area of 2,116 square miles, which had been added subsequently to this district from the Leia and Jhelum districts, still remained for settlement. This work was commenced in July 1862, by Captain Davies, and the completion of it is now reported. At Captain Davies' request, Mr. Ouseley furnished him with a memo. explanatory of the principles on which his settlement was made, and considering how long it is since Mr. Ouseley left the district, it is wonderful he should be able to give as much information as he has done. A great part of this memo. has been embodied in Captain Davies' report.

14. The first summary settlement of that portion of the present district, the assessment of which was revised by Mr. Ouseley, was based on the data furnished by the Sikh jamabandeas, on which a reduction of 20 per cent was taken; but as the Sikh revenue had for the most part been taken in kind or by appraisement, this estimate was found too high, and the assessment had to be reduced by three-fourths of a lak, out of a total assessment of Rs. 3,42,492. The revised assessment of the whole district made by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies shews a further slight reduction of 3 per cent on the last summary settlement jamma, which includes "tirnee."

15. The most important question Mr. Ouseley had to settle was that of the village boundaries in the Bar. In this tract the villages were often 10 to 12 miles apart. They were inhabited by various Mahomedan tribes, who did little in the way of cultivating the soil, but had large herds of cattle, from which, so far as any count could be taken of them, tirnee dues were collected. The zemindars of this tract thought that according to our system of putting up boundaries they would be allowed to divide the whole "Bar" jungle among them; they accordingly, Mr. Ouseley says, established little out-posts with a few men and a few cattle, each at distances of several miles from the parent

village, and proposed to enclose them all in one boundary. But with the sanction of Mr. Thornton, the Commissioner, Mr. Ouseley determined to include in each village only as much waste land as was requisite for the pasturage of the estimated number of its cattle, allowing at the rate of about 4 acres for each head of cattle. If zemindars objected to the estimate of their cattle, they were told they need not have any more waste land included in their boundaries than they choose to pay for at the rates fixed, which were one rupee for every 20 acres. The objectionable tirnee system was thus got rid of, and all the remaining waste was formed into Government rukhs.

16. The tirnee system was also judiciously abolished by Captain Davies in a similar manner, in the part of the district settled by him; but as the pasturage in the Thull, where most of the waste lands settled by Captain Davies were situated, was very inferior to that of the Bar, he allowed 10 acres for each estimated head of cattle.

17. A number of Government rukhs, containing valuable grazing land, have thus been formed in different parts of the district, the amount of revenue from which under the leases given out by Captain Davies has already reached the sum of Rupees 23,000, which is nearly twice as much as the amount by which the summary settlement jumma has been reduced in the revised settlement; and, moreover, this is a revenue which is likely to increase still further, as additional land is brought into cultivation within the village boundaries, and the demand for such products, as ghee and wool, which is already largely exported from the district, increases.

18. The tests on which Mr. Ouseley principally relied for fixing the amount of his assessment were some authentic "kunkoot" and "buttai" papers, the weighing of the produces of certain fields before his own eyes, and the summary suit decisions. The result, however, was only an increase of about 1 per cent on the last summary settlement jumma, and this was chiefly owing, it would appear, to the formation of some new estates. The summary settlement jumma of the portion of the district settled by Mr. Ouseley was Rs. 2,67,455; the revised jumma rupees 2,71,141. This jumma, however, apparently, is not quite the whole of what Mr. Ouseley assessed, as two talooquas transferred from Leia and Jhung in 1853 and 1854, have been excluded, in order, Captain Davies says, not to disturb the comparison between the summary settlement and revised jumma—(see para. 125).

19. The most important thing that Captain Davies had to attend to in the part of the district settled by him, was the right to the water of the hill torrents by which both the villages of the Salt Range and the plains below are irrigated. These rights have all been carefully recorded; the various channels by which the water is conveyed to the different fields have been marked in the village plans; and where the irrigation is carried on by means of dams; a separate plan of the stream has been prepared, showing the recognized dams, and the fields which may be irrigated from them.

20. The most difficult part of Captain Davies' task in determining the assessment appears to have been the obtaining a correct classification of the estates in the Salt Range, owing to the great difference in the productive powers of the land, according as it was more or less irrigated by the drainage from the adjacent hills, or not irrigated at all. In framing rates, Captain Davies seems principally to have relied on two ways, one that of actual experiment, threshing out the grain and seeing what fair samples of each kind of soil would thus yield; the other that of enquiry from the people. The result of his assessment has been a decrease on the whole of rather more than 5 per cent. on the summary settlement jumma; but this decrease is almost entirely confined to the Salt Range, on the summary settlement jumma of which it amounts to nearly 10 per cent. These reductions however, were not apparently given, because the former revenue was high, compared with the produce of the land, but in consequence of over population.

21. If I remember right, in some villages in which the greatest reductions were given, the inhabitants had only about one acre of culturable land each; on an average. No doubt the slightest assessment, or no assessment at all, must be very burdensome under such circumstances; but Captain Davies contends that it was necessary to make the people content by giving them some reduction. As the subject is one of no slight importance I extract here some of Captain Davies' remarks on the subject.—“It was “objected at the time” he says, “that I had allowed myself to be too “much influenced by this consideration; and there is no doubt that “carried too far, it would lead to unnecessary sacrifice of revenue, because “the only remedy, emigration, owing to the peculiar tenacity with which “people cling to their paternal acres, is one that is never seen to result from “pressure of taxation. But I contend that we must respect the feeling “that stands in our way, and that until Government changes its policy, and “in imitation of its predecessors the Sikhs, allows the love of rupees to out- “weigh in its estimation the contentment of its subjects, this is a point that a “Settlement Officer can never over-look”—(see para. 221). Mr. Arthur Brandreth, who had villages similarly circumstanced to assess in the Jhelum district, objects altogether (see paras. 205, 210, Jhelum Report) and with much right as it seems to me, to reductions on such grounds, though he gave them himself because he was ordered to do so. If an artificial limit to subdivision were fixed by law, as is said to be the case in France and Prussia, the prosperity of these villages would be immensely promoted by such a rule, the surplus population would then be compelled to go and cultivate the abundant wastes in other parts of the country, as tenants-at-will if they could not get proprietary right; there should be a prohibition against land being subdivided where the quantity did not exceed what could be cultivated by one plough.

22. Of the tract assessed by Captain Davies, the summary settlement jumma was Rs. 1,06,301, the revised jumma Rs. 1,00,755, giving a net decrease of Rs. 5,546.

Total assessment of the district.

23. The result of the revised assessment of the whole district is as follows:—

Name of Tahseel.	Summary settle- ment jumma.	Revised settle- ment jumma.
Bhera,	1,29,879	1,23,689
Shahpoor,	1,09,215	1,10,917
Khooshab,	1,49,143	1,41,906
Total,	3,88,237	3,76,512

giving a net decrease of Rs. 11,725, or about 3 per cent.

24. It is to this jumma for which sanction is asked as a 10 year settlement, or for such further additional period as may be hereafter decided on. I think there can be no doubt that the assessment proposed is at any rate not too high; the only tract in which the summary settlement was thought to press at all heavily was the Salt Range, and here a reduction of 10 per cent has been given; the revised assessments of the other parts of the district do not materially differ from the summary settlement jumma, and most of Mr. Ouseley's assessments have now had the actual test of having been collected for upwards of 10 years; and Captain Davies, who has watched the working of them for the last 4 years, states that if Mr. Ouseley erred at all, it was on the side of leniency, more especially in the Bar, from which "no doubt double the existing revenue could be obtained without much difficulty" (see para. 186). Captain Davies' assessments are from S. 1,921 to S. 1,930, and I would recommend Mr. Ouseley's assessments also being confirmed for this additional period, unless this part of the district is to be immediately re-assessed by Mr. Prinsep, as any uncertainty in such a matter is very injurious to the agricultural progress of a district.

25. The amount of revenue alienated in jagheers or maafee plots is shown by Captain Davies to be rupees 46,366, or rather more than 12 per cent on the jumma; but of this sum upwards of rupees 15,000 appear to be new grants to the Tiwanas for their services under Major Edwardes, and rupees 11,982 are for charitable maafee grants for life only; of the whole of the claims to maafee lands investigated during summary settlement, about two-thirds were rejected: these included most of the grants to the village head-men, but as these were deemed most important grants, and the entire resumption of them which took place

was considered most impolitic, a separate report has been submitted to the Financial Commissioner in which it has been proposed to give a partial compensation for some of these resumed grants by assigning inams, which have been made a certain per-centage of the jumma, in the case of the most distinguished among the head-men.

26. The latter part of the report is taken up with an account of the various rights that were ascertained, or determined, and recorded during the course of the settlement, and here also Captain Davies gives several extracts from Mr. Ouseley's Memorandum. It would appear from Mr. Ouseley's account as if in the Sikh times the Government share was taken in kind from the whole of the cultivators, both from those who were clearly admitted to be the proprietary body, or "waris" as I believe they are generally called, and original founders of the village, as well as from those cultivators who settled in the village at later periods and had no claim to be ranked among the "waris." Mr. Ouseley shows (paras. 256 and 257) that there was a well marked difference between these two classes, and that, as a rule, the latter rarely raised any proprietary claims; he shows also that in the greater part of the district settled by him the non-proprietary cultivator paid 5 per cent on his quota of the Government demand, ordinarily in kind to the recognized proprietor. In such cases, Mr. Ouseley fixed at his settlement a money payment at an increase of from 35 to 40 per cent, including all extra cesses on the jumma of the land. It would also appear that only those cultivators were recorded as hereditary who had either sunk or repaired wells or broken up the waste.

27. If the foregoing were a complete account of the way in which the claims of cultivators were treated in Shahpoor, if no length of occupancy unless accompanied with special claims, of having broken up waste or sunk wells, was deemed sufficient to constitute a man a hereditary cultivator, and if the proprietors were allowed to take grain rates from all other non-proprietary cultivators from whom not they, but the Sikh Kardars only, formerly took these rates, the proprietors would have had less cause for complaint in Shahpoor, than in, perhaps, any other district in the Punjab; but I think there must have been besides, a considerable number of cultivators who formerly paid grain rents directly to proprietors, or at any rate, did so during the summary settlement, and whose payments were also converted into money on the same principles. In these cases this conversion of the grain into money payments, by taking a per-centage on the jumma, would be a very arbitrary way of dealing with the matter, and a very insufficient account would thus be taken of the real produce of particular fields, and of the share in that produce formerly paid by the cultivators. Several complaints on this subject were made to the late Financial Commissioner, who is now Lieutenant Governor, when he visited the Shahpoor district in 1862, and he subsequently directed, after examining several of the files, that Captain Davies should be authorized to revise his predecessor's orders in these cases wherever he saw sufficient reason for doing so (Financial Commissioner to Commissioner, No. 880, dated 28th March 1864). In one or two

cases that were appealed to me revision was ordered. Captain Davies does not mention what he has done with reference to these instructions.

28. In other parts of the district, where Mr. Ouseley says "the heavy assessments of the Sikh times had quite trampled out all proprietary rights" (see para. 262), even the 5 per cent. on the Government demand was not allowed to the proprietors and all the non-proprietary cultivators of long standing, including even the artizans and village servants, have been recorded as owners of the land in their occupancy; if this had been done by the Settlement Officer's order it would I think have been a decided error. Though by the Sikh exactions, the proprietors had been brought down to the level of the non-proprietary cultivators, yet when the value of the possession of the proprietors was raised by the reduction of the Government demand, it certainly was not necessary to confer equal benefits on the non-proprietary cultivators, but I am told that, in these instances, it was at the express wish of the real proprietors that the others were made proprietors also.

29. The tenure is said both by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies to have become almost universally blayachara, where the land is no longer either held or paid for according to ancestral shares; when the revenue, as in the Sikh times, was all taken in kind, there was no place left for payment by ancestral shares, and if it is quite clear that under the summary settlement the people of their own accord distributed the assessment according to their holdings, I certainly agree with Captain Davies (see para. 267) in thinking that any attempt by a Settlement Officer to restore ancestral shares, unless it was unanimously asked for by the people, which would be hardly credible, would not be advisable; but though the jummas have now been distributed primarily on the quantity of land held by proprietors, yet Captain Davies says, in another part of his report, that the revenue was at any rate on a certain number of villages after annexation, paid by a distribution on ploughs. I am assured, however, that there was not any attempt to rovide ancestral shares, but that the shares called ploughs corresponded exactly with the possession of each proprietor at the time this distribution was made.

30. It is another question however, whether the waste and common land should not be assigned according to ancestral shares; this might possibly have been in accordance with the wishes of the people. In Shahpoor however it appears that each man's share in the common land has been recorded as more or less according to the sum at which his separate holding has been assessed in the khewut.

31. In the part of the district settled by him, Captain Davies has very greatly, and I think very properly, reduced the number of lumberdars appointed at the summary settlement. Both Captain Davies' inquiries in this district and Mr. Arthur Brandreth's in the adjoining district of Jhelum, shew that, as the rule in former times, there was only one head-man in each village, who received the lion's share of the "inam," though there were doubtless often others subor-

dinate to him, receiving smaller shares. In the summary settlements, not only the former sharers in the inam, but sometimes entirely new men were admitted to sign the jumma agreements, and then all shared the small puchotra which was substituted for the former large inam, the man who had the lion's share before, as well as the man who had none, on exactly equal terms. Such a change in the distribution of the manager's fund, had nothing whatever to recommend it, the system had not the sanction of previous custom, and it certainly had no intrinsic merits; for when the fund was thus minutely divided, it was no one's business to aid the administration, to assist the police, or to do anything at all: the putwarec became the great man of the village, and even the jumma, I believe, was generally collected by him. I think that Captain Davies has done well in endeavouring to remedy this state of things; he might, in my opinion, in many cases, have drawn even a greater distinction than he did between the head lumberdar and those subordinate lumberdars whom he still retained, in respect to the distribution of the lumberdaree fees.

32. The lands thown up by the river are one of the most fertile sources of disputes in the Shalpoor district; the rule which theoretically governs the decision of cases of this class is that known as the "war-par bunna" rule, the object of which rule is to maintain the original boundary of every estate. No matter for how long a period the land may have been washed away by the river, when any new land is formed within the original boundary line, the village is entitled to claim it by this rule, without any reference to the deep stream or subsequent curso of the river, and even though the land should have been formed on the boundary of another estate, and separated from the estate claiming it by the deep stream of the river; but this is a rule exceedingly difficult of application. Captain Davies says (see para. 312) no great difficulty is experienced in its application, now that a regular survey and settlement of the estates on both banks have been made, but this does not in my opinion remove the main difficulty; there is still the whole breadth of the river between the different estates, unless in the case of villages that have got land on both banks; how much of the original area of any estate is now at the bottom of the river, is not so easy to discover; if this had been investigated and recorded at the settlement, it might have been a good thing done, but it was not; after new land has been formed and become the subject of dispute between two villages, and covetous desire to possess it has been excited, it is very difficult to obtain any reliable evidence; though before the land comes into existence reliable evidence may I think sometimes be obtained as to the original extent of the boundaries of the different estates. People will be found who remember that such and such trees and wells at so many paces from the existing village site, have been washed away. I have ascertained that there is a plan of the river in the Surveyor General's office, and he has promised to supply a copy of it, and when this is obtained, it might be worth while to require all villages that have claims against the river, to record them. A short time since, I had to decide a dispute between a Goojerat and a Jhelum village regarding some newly formed land: it was impossible to tell from the conflicting evidence that was then recorded, to which village the land in dispute had originally belonged, but in a boundary dispute which

had been decided some years previously, in which the Jhelum people had claimed some of the Goojerat lands, it was found that the Goojerat people had admitted that the whole bed of the river, as its course then was, belonged to the Jhelum village, and on this admission, the Jhelum zemindars abandoned the claim they had set up to the land that had been included in the Goojerat village boundary; the land that was the subject of the recent dispute, had all been formed on the Goojerat boundary, but in consequence of this evidence, I awarded possession of it to the Jhelum village, where however, no reliable evidence as to former boundaries is forthcoming; there is no other way of deciding a dispute, that I know of, except by the "accession law."

33. In conclusion, I would propose that the thanks of the Government should be given to those officers who have been the most conspicuously engaged in this settlement, to Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, and to their Assistants, Extra Assistant Pundit Motee Lall, Tehseeldar Buktawur Lall and Naib Tehseeldar Hurbuns Lal. It is six years since Mr. Ouseley left the district; his assessment has been very moderate, not to say light. I do not mention this as entitling him to any great praise, for all the assessments of late years have been very light in accordance with the supposed wishes of the Government, but he is entitled to the acknowledgment of the Government for the very great care and accuracy with which I understand most of his work has been done, for the finish of the maps, the correctness of the measurements, and the accuracy of all the entries, and for the care and patience with which he disposed of a more than ordinary quantity of judicial work even for a settlement; his work too, it must be remembered, has now stood the test of several years, he had a remarkable power of securing to himself the regard of the people among whom he was employed for so many years, and Captain Davies bears witness that his name is always in their mouths, and is never mentioned but with marks of respect and affection. Captain Davies in his completion of this settlement of this district has, it seems to me, shewn considerable ability, and his knowledge of the people with whom he had to deal during the last 4 years is very remarkable; his judicial decisions are ever sound, and all his work connected with the assessment and the record of rights, seems to have been done in a very satisfactory way; moreover, he has had charge of the district, besides carrying on the settlement, and certainly has been behind no other officer in his attention to district work in general; and as regards local improvements by the many new and important roads, serais, canals, and other public works, which he has so efficiently carried out, he has unquestionably gained the first place for Shahpoor among the districts in this Division. Mr. Ouseley bears strong testimony to the experience, intelligence; and industry of Pundit Motee Lall. Tehseeldar Buktawur Lall is highly commended by both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, under both of whom he worked, for his great industry and integrity. My opinion was some time since asked by the Financial Commissioner as to whether this officer should be exempted from the Tehseeldar's examination. I objected on the ground that it would create an inconvenient precedent, but after the testimony to his merits borne by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, and on the special grounds of his services in the Shahpoor settlement, I wish to withdraw my objection, and to petition in favor of his being

exempted from examination. Hurbuns Lall, Naib Tehseeldar, deserves mention both for the great care with which he supervised the measurements, and also for the special aptitude which he shewed for judicial work.

I have &c.

(Signed) E. L. BRANDRETH,
Commissioner.



सत्यमेव जयते

*Memo. by Lieutenant Colonel E. J. Lake on the Settlement Report of the
Shahpoo District.*

I submit a valuable and interesting Report prepared by Captain W. Davies, on the revised Settlement of the Shahpoo district, which has been effected partly by himself, and partly by Mr. Gore Ouseley. The Report is illustrated by some excellent maps, to which attention may be first directed.

I. There is a map exhibiting the limits of the district as it was constituted when it was settled by Mr. Ouseley, with the fiscal divisions then recognized.

II. There is a map showing the limits of the district of Shahpoo as at present constituted, with its present fiscal divisions.

III. In a third map is shown the location of the several tribes into which the population of the district is sub-divided.

IV. The past history of the district is illustrated in a fourth map, which shows the political sub-divisions which existed in the district prior to its conquest by Maharaja Runjeet Sing.

V. In a fifth map the boundaries of the several circles are shown, into which the Settlement Officers divided the district for purposes of assessment.

VI. Lastly, there is a sheet containing some excellent drawings of the ornaments in common use.

2. A review of this report by Mr. Edward Brandreth, Commissioner of the Rawalpindie division, also forms one of the enclosures to this Memo :

3. The full and detailed description given by Captain Davies of the district in its physical aspects, renders it unnecessary to add much on this head. It will suffice to say that it covers an area of 4,682 square miles, of which more than half is taken up by dreary tracts known under the general names of the "Bar" and the "Thull." There are spots, here and there in the "Thull," where good grass is produced, and where,

	Area in square miles.
"Bar"	1,434
"Thull"	918
	<hr/> 2,352

by the aid of artificial irrigation, water-melons and other crops can be raised ; but its general character is that of a desolate wilderness, in which nothing but stunted bushes will grow. In its present condition, the "Bar" is only less dreary than the "Thull" ; for although trees of the more hardy varieties take the place of bushes, they are also stunted in size, and the water is brackish, and from 60 to 75 feet below the surface. The "Bar," however, produces rich crops of grass, and thus is turned to good use as a pasture ground for cattle. The soil, moreover, is good, and nothing but canal irrigation is needed to turn this wilderness into a garden. On a small scale this good work has been happily commenced, as described in para. 24 of the report ; for several inundation canals, under the fostering encouragement of Captain Davies and his predecessor Mr. MacNabb, have already been constructed ; and " there is every reason to believe that " this system of irrigation will ere long be largely developed." To relieve the barrenness of the "Thull and the Bar," which take up so large a portion of the Shahpoo district, there are along the banks of the Jhelum and the Chenab, and at the base of the Salt Range rich alluvial strips of land, the

productive powers of which are greatly stimulated by periodical overflowings of the streams which bound or intersect those strips. Bounding these alluvial strips on the Jhelum and Chenab, and filling up the space between them and the "Bar," is a productive tract of country in which sweet water is found at a practicable depth below the surface, and in which tillage is entirely dependent on wells. In the Salt Range also are to be found vallies of extreme fertility; still how much remains to be done to develop cultivation in the district may be inferred from the fact that while only 530 square miles are cultivated, 2,210 square miles are culturable. In a district like this, in which the average rain-fall is only 15 inches a year, the extension of cultivation is necessarily dependent upon the extension of irrigation.

4. The habits of the people also have been largely influenced by the character and past history of the country. Thus many portions of the district are in the hands of a pastoral population, who have only turned their attention to agriculture since the commencement of British rule. The average population for the entire district is only 64 souls per square mile, and even where the population is most dense in the alluvial tracts of the Chenab and Jhelum, the average per square mile is not more than 198 souls. In the Salt Range villages, however, the extent of cultivated and culturable lands is only 46,000 acres, while the inhabitants number 28,607 souls; so that in point of fact, here, the population is larger than the land can properly support; but elsewhere in this district the reverse is the case, for lands are abundant and more hands are required to bring them into cultivation.

5. The Mahomedan element, it may be observed, so largely predominates throughout the district over the Hindoo, that out of a population of 3,02,700, only 52,052 are Hindoos, and the rest are Mahomedans. Many of these latter however were converted from Hindooism. Captain Davies gives a full and interesting account of the tribes of the district. The Junjooahs, who formerly held as lords vast tracts of country, the Awâns and Beloches, of whom colonies have been settled in all parts of the Punjab, and the Tiwanahs, who have actively supported, more than once, the British Government, are among the most noted, although none of them except the Awâns are formidable in number.

6. There are only five town-ships in the district which contain a population of more than five thousand souls; and Bhera, the largest of these (although in Imperial times a large city) contains now only 13,973 souls. Kooshab, which now contains only 7,261 souls, is destined probably to increase largely, if its new site does not

share the fate of the old, of which the larger portion has been washed away by the river. Its situation on the Jhelum points it out as the best port for shipping the surplus produce of the district, which may find its way to Mooltan, Sukkur, Kurachee, Bombay and England, besides which the cloth manufactured here finds its way to Afghanistan. Under Captain Davies' directions a new town has been laid out at Kooshab, on an excellent design, the buildings of which already present an imposing and commodious appearance. Although Meeanee is insignificant in size and population, (containing only 6,005 souls), it is well known as the great salt mart of the Punjab, as some traders, and particularly those who use wheeled carriage, prefer purchasing their salt at Meeanee instead of going on to the mines. Much has been

Bhera.
Saiwâl.
Khooshab.
Meeanee.
Mitta Tiwaana.

done by Captain Davies to embellish Meeanee as well as the other townships of the district; and the roads he has made, particularly those which open up the Salt Range, cannot but have the best effect in developing trade.

7. The past history of the country, as related in the report, supplies incidents similar to those which have been enacted not only in other parts of the Punjab, but in other parts of the world. Thus, when the vast Mahomedan empire crumbled to pieces, there was a general scramble for power, and men of influence and force of character asserted their independence. Among the men who thus came prominently forward, were the representatives of two races, Sikhs and Mahomedans, and then followed a period of general commotion during which the Sikhs and Mahomedans strove for mastery. As the Sikhs had all the vigour and energy of a young race in whom religious fervour had been recently kindled, victory would sooner have declared in their favour but for the divisions which prevailed among themselves. It was reserved for Maharajah Runjeet Sing to bring under subjection, not only all rival Sikh chiefs who had established principalities in the Punjab, but also the Mahomedans who had hitherto held their own against the Sikhs. Maharajah Runjeet Singh's policy is too well known to require detailed description. It will suffice to say that scarcely a year passed that he did not incorporate within his own dominion, the principality, sometimes of a rival, and sometimes of a friend, and no one has ever pursued more systematically the policy of annexation.

8. First and foremost among the natural products of the district Captain Davies has rightly placed salt; for although the principal mine (Khewra) from which the largest revenue is derived is situated in the Jhelum district, other mines are worked in the Shahpoor district, which contain inexhaustible supplies of this valuable mineral. Of the other products of the district, a detailed account will be found in the report. Saltpetre, sujje—or an impure carbonate of soda, wool, ghee, hides, opium and cotton may be enumerated among the products which are in demand in distant as well as in the local markets of the district. The area under poppy cultivation is nearly three thousand acres, and the value of the opium produced is put down at a lakh and thirty thousand rupees. As there has been a remarkable increase in the quantity of opium produced in the Shahpoor district; it is evident that the system of leasing the monopoly for the sale of opium, which prevails there, does not operate so unfavourably upon the culture of opium as some officers of high standing have been led to suppose. It may be noted that a specimen of opium sent from Shahpoor was favorably reported upon by the Government Opium Agent at Patna. The cotton also which is produced in the Shahpoor district is of superior quality, and a specimen of the "Thull" wool sent from this district to the Punjab exhibition carried off the first prize. It is mentioned by Captain Davies that sugar-cane is grown exclusively along the Chenab; and as regards other vegetable products, they seem to be the ordinary staples found in other parts of the Punjab.

9. The mode of operation adopted in the settlement of this district has been fully described by Mr. Ouseley in a memorandum he has drawn out, and by Captain Davies in the report he has submitted. It will be observed that among other precautions for ensuring accuracy in the record of measurements, Mr. Ouseley furnished every shareholder and every tenant with a right of occupancy with an extract from the record, showing every particular regarding the lands of which he had been recorded proprietor or tenant.

Although now such a precaution is taken as a matter of course in all settlements, this was not the rule in the earlier settlements of the Punjab; and its adoption, to quote the words of Mr. Ouseley, "secured an accuracy in the settlement papers which could not have been otherwise attained amongst an ignorant people unacquainted with our revenue system." I fully concur with Mr. Ouseley "that no greater error can be committed in the course of a settlement than to have villages measured by any one except the village putwarree." Others may be advantageously associated with him, but he should certainly take part in the work. There is no doubt also, as pointed out by Mr. Ouseley, that in working out what is technically called a "produce jumma," or an assessment based upon the estimated yield of the land, gross errors are likely to be made; and the result thus obtained is chiefly of use for testing and correcting the estimates formed by independent enquiries conducted in other ways. In determining the assessments finally fixed, both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies availed themselves largely of the local knowledge which their connection with the district had enabled them to acquire, and to perfect which they had spared neither pains nor labour. Mr. Ouseley's assessments have now been in force for some years, and experience has proved that they are equable and moderate. There is every reason to anticipate that Captain Davies' settlement will work equally well. In these assessments, aggregating rupees 3,76,512, particulars of which are noted below, sanction is now solicited, and I would at the same time recommend that the term of the present settlement be extended to the close of 1886-87, or for twenty years from the date on which the present settlement was completed, but with the reservation that the rents paid by landlords to tenants, and the relations existing between these classes, may be reconsidered whenever the term of settlement originally fixed has expired. By para 315 of the report it will be seen that excepting in the villages settled by Captain Davies, and in some villages of the Kaloowāl tehsel incorporated with Bhera, the term of settlement has already expired, so there will be no difficulty in giving effect to the rules which may be laid down by the Supreme Government for regulating the relations between landlords and tenants.

Particulars of the summary and revised settlement:—

Tehseel.	Summary settlement jumma.	Revised settlement jumma.	Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
Bhera, ...	1,29,879	1,23,689	...	6,190	Captain Davies effected the settlement of lands assessed at Rs. 1,00,755, and Mr. Ouseley settled the remainder.
Shahpoor,	1,09,215	1,10,917	1,702	...	
Kooshab,	1,49,143	1,41,906	...	7,237	
Total,...	3,88,237	3,76,512	1,702	13,427	

10. The apparent loss of revenue here exhibited is more than counter-balanced by the income derived from Government rukhs or preserves, which have been separately demarcated and formed at the present settlement. These rukhs yield about 23,000 Rs. per annum, and the settlement officers have arranged in a most judicious manner all matters which have arisen in connection with them. Thus, while on one hand the people have been allowed to retain ample lands for grazing purposes, the rights of the Government have been secured to all surplus lands in excess of their legitimate wants. From returns rendered to this office it appears that these Government preserves, which are now at the absolute disposal of the State, cover an area of about 4,99,784 acres.

11. As regards the future management of these rukhs or Government preserves, the views expressed in para. 318 of the report appear to be sound; and instead of disposing of the grazing leases annually by public competition, it will be preferable to lease them out for two or three years at moderate rates, either to approved parties among the grazing classes, or to men of character who are not likely to oppress the people.

12. The recent discussions regarding tenant-right in the Punjab invest with more than ordinary interest the remarks on this subject by Mr. Ouseley, which are to be found in paras. 253 to 262 of the report. Mr. Ouseley is well known as a pains-taking officer, who mixed much with the people, and who was most earnest in all enquiries conducted by him to arrive at the truth, and his conclusions, therefore, are entitled to more than ordinary weight. His enquiries shewed "that there were parties who, though they had no claim to proprietary title, asserted a claim to cultivate the land in their possession subject to the payment of a rent more favorable than was demanded from the mere tenant-at-will. These men had acquired their right by one of two ways: they had either broken up the waste land (generally land on the banks of the river), and were called 'Abâd Kôrân' or 'Bunjur Shijafan,' or they had sunk a well on the land which they cultivated, or had cleared out and put into working order an old well situated in the land they tilled." "In either case," Mr. Ouseley goes on to say, "it was the custom to allow tenants of the above description a certain amount of indulgence compared with ordinary tenants in taking their rents &c." These conclusions do not differ materially from those of other settlement officers employed at the commencement of British rule in the Punjab. Mr. Ouseley dealt with these claims in an equitable manner, and in a spirit of consideration for both landlords and tenants. It may be a question whether, as urged by Mr. Brandreth, the procedure was not erroneous under which in the Kaloowâl tehseel and Zijl Moosa, (see para. 262) all cultivators of long standing were recorded owners, and these cases may possibly be reviewed with advantage. It is also likely that an enhanced rent should be paid by several of the tenants; at the same time it is noteworthy that there are a few tenants "*who with the consent of the proprietors are excused all payment on account of mulikana*" or proprietary dues. These matters may however be left for future consideration, after the issue of instructions by the Supreme Government on the reference recently made by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

13. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies concur in the opinion that the prevailing tenure of the district is "bhayachara," or that in which the measure of rights is possession in supersession of ancestral rights; and in paras 265-267 Captain Davies gives very cogent reasons why this tenure should predominate, not only in the Shahpore district, but in other parts of the Punjab. It will be important to ascertain whether Mr. Prinsep has arrived at an opposite conclusion in the districts in which he has conducted a revision of settlement, because his classification of tenures is based upon different principles to those adopted by other settlement officers, or because parties have taken advantage of a revision of settlement to revive ancestral rights without regard to the law of limitation.

14. In accordance with the very decided views held by Mr. Brandreth the Commissioner, and by Captain Davies, that the number of lumberdars should be limited, several have been removed from office during the present settlement. It is admitted that a great deal of discontent has been created, but Captain Davies flatters himself that "the feeling was confined entirely to those immediately affected by the reductions," and that "the population at large decidedly approved of what had been done." Even admitting that an error was made at the summary settlement in nominating too many lumberdars, I question the wisdom of *suddenly* restricting their number, and would have preferred an arrangement under which the number would have been *gradually* reduced as existing incumbents died off. Confidence in the stability of our arrangements must be shaken when the people find that our policy is so suddenly reversed, and few European officers can have the intimate local knowledge requisite to determine who, of several claimants, has the best right to retain office. The difficulties of such an enquiry are greater when a number of claims of this kind are taken up simultaneously; when however the settlement and divisional authorities concurred in removing an incumbent from office, I did not consider it advisable ordinarily to interfere, although I did interfere in some few cases in which, apart from prescriptive rights, those deprived of the office of lumberdar had established a claim to our consideration by fighting for us at Mooltan, or in Hindustan;—for it seemed impolitic to disgust those who had served us so well, in deference to an abstract theory that we ought to revert to the Sikh system, under which the emoluments pertaining to the office of lumberdar were chiefly monopolized by one man. In my opinion, the expectations of those will prove illusory who imagine that by increasing the emoluments of the lumberdar they will restore him to the position of influence he held under the Sikhs. It was part of their revenue system to invest the lumberdars with unusual powers, so as to turn them to better account in squeezing revenue out of the people; and so long as this object was attained no complaints were listened to, however oppressively those powers were exercised. Now however it is very different: the powers of the lumberdar are regulated by the law, any infraction of which will subject him to prosecution, in the course of which no favor will be shown to him because he is the head-man of the village.

15. In para. 294 of the report reference is made to a rule under which, for the purpose of increasing the emoluments of the head lumberdar, an additional five per cent payable to him is imposed upon outsiders who have obtained a proprietary footing in a village. The legality of such an arrange-

ment was questioned ; because if the additional cess thus levied was of the nature of a proprietary or talooqdaree due, then its appropriation by one man was unfair to other shareholders whose rights were not inferior ; if, on the other hand, this cess was to be regarded in the light of remuneration for the discharge of the duties of an office, there seemed no reason why one class of proprietors should be charged double the rates paid by others, and by tenants with a right of occupancy. The correspondence * which has passed on this subject is herewith submitted in original.

* No. 2721 dated 1st July 1865, from Financial Commissioner to Commissioner, Rawul Pindiee.

No. 199 dated 31st idem to Do. from Do. with enclosures.

16. The proposal referred to in para. 250 to improve the position of some of the head-men of influence and note by bestowing "inams" upon them has my support, and in the * correspondence marginally noted specific recommendations have been submitted for the approval of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

17. As described in para. 214 of the report, and as noted by the Commissioner, Captain Davies has done well in preparing a complete and careful record of the rights of all parties who have a prescriptive title to share in the waters brought down by the hill streams which intersect the district, and the separate plans of these torrents described in para. 214 showing the exact spots at which it is allowable to erect dams, and the fields entitled to participate in the irrigation are calculated to prove of the greatest use in disputes which may hereafter arise.

18. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies refer to the large number of contested cases which have been brought into Court during the progress of this settlement, and Captain Davies further observes that "a large portion of the claims preferred were shown to be utterly false and fictitious." The spirit of litigation has doubtless been fostered by settlement operations having been protracted and extended over such a number of years, and this delay in bringing the settlement to a completion also accounts for the large expenditure which has been incurred from first to last, and which amounts to no less a sum than 1,75,240 rupees, or about 42 per cent on the revenue of the tracts assessed. The bulk of this expenditure, however, was incurred on the portions of the district first settled. The outlay incurred by Captain Davies on the work effected by him was most moderate, and did not exceed twelve per cent on the revenue assessed. The delays which occurred must be attributed to the system adopted, under which settlement work was imposed upon district officers whose attention was thus divided between district and settlement duties.

19. It is most creditable both to Captain Davies and Mr. Ouseley that although they were harassed with the onerous charge of a district and all its important duties, they have succeeded in effecting the settlement in so complete and thorough a manner. By his pains-taking and searching enquiries, by his earnestness, by the justice of his decisions and by the considerate interest he evinced in all matters affecting the welfare of the people, Mr. Ouseley has won a lasting place in their regard, while at the same time

credit was reflected upon the administration, of which he was an honoured and useful member. The work left unfinished by Mr. Ouseley has been completed in a masterly manner by Captain Davies, who has displayed considerable ability in the work, and who has furnished an interesting record of Mr. Ouseley's labours as well as his own. The energy displayed by Captain Davies in the construction of roads, seraes, canals, and public buildings, and in the prosecution of other material improvements has quite altered the face of the district. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies have earned warm commendations, and I bring their names to the favorable notice of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. I also request that the labours of Extra Assistant Pundit Motee Lall, of whom Mr. Ouseley speaks highly, may be suitably acknowledged; the labours also of Buktawur Lall, Ram Sahae, Hurbuns Lall, and Meer Goolam Hossein, have earned the commendations of their superiors, and the first named of these, Buktawur Lall, appears from the combined testimony of several officers to be specially deserving.

20. It will be observed by reference to para. 129 of the report that Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies are both under the impression that "at one time the Bar jungle was thickly populated," and that the gradual subsidence of the water-level has led to its depopulation. Without entering into the question as to when and how this occurred, it may be affirmed that the Bar is capable of being restored to a high state of prosperity. This would be best done by the State undertaking to construct a canal; but if owing to more important projects this cannot be done, then by extending the benefits of inundation canals. As pointed out in para. 317 of the report, to ensure satisfactory results, discrimination must be shown in leasing waste lands to men of capital, energy, influence and intelligence, who are really in earnest about cultivating them and extending to them the benefits of irrigation. Further, as for the want of the requisite engineering knowledge, it cannot be expected that the natives of the country will be able to lay down the best line for a canal, and experience has shown that canals with a defective alignment are maintained with great difficulty in proper working order: it would be very desirable if the Engineer officer at Pind Dadun Khan, or some canal officer were allowed to aid the people in these important works upon which the prosperity of the district so much depends.

EDWARD LAKE,

Financial Commissioner.

Minute by the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor on the Shikpûr Settlement Report.

It is not necessary to enter with any minuteness into the principles of assessment described, and other details given, in this excellent report ; but much is stated in it of a suggestive character, in connection with administrative and general matters, on which it will be well to remark, leaving historical and some other subjects, which are given with great clearness, to be fully studied by the reader in the report itself.

2. From the detail given in paras 2 and 3 as per margin, it seems that

Physical features of the District.

Cultivated, ...	530 square miles.
Culturable, ...	2,210 "
Barren waste,...	1,942 "
Total, ...	4,682 "

only one-fifth of the culturable land is at present under the plough, while a very large proportion of the remaining four-fifths would become as valuable as what is now cultivated if water could be supplied ; this being however possible in a large part of it, only by introducing a system of reservoirs or canals, the depth of wells being so great and the water so alkaline as to render these almost useless for irrigation. In the Bar, however, the central ridge of the "Jach Doab," or that between the Jhelum and Chenab, there exist, it would appear, more or less in nearly all parts, depressed hollows, elsewhere termed "Rahnab," where temporary accumulations of the rain-fall admit of crops being raised with some degree of success. In the Thall or desert tracts of the Western or Sindh Sagâr Doâb, that between the Jhelum and Indus, there appear in like manner to be comparatively level and continuous depressions, designated Patti, or by other names, which are probably remains of old channels or branches of the river ; and in these water is procurable by digging wells at smaller depths, and of superior quality to what generally prevails. Still, even in these parts; the cultivation must ever continue but scant and precarious until canals are introduced.

3. The great fertility of portions of the Salt Range, as described in para. 42, is not I believe generally known ; but here, save in the very few spots where streams of constant or frequent flow exist, the only prospect of securing irrigation would appear to depend on the formation of reservoirs, which have not yet been attempted under British rule, nor has the feasibility or desirableness of resorting to the expedient been fully considered, though

the subject appears to be one well worthy of being fully discussed. One large natural lake, that of Uchhâli, exists, immediately under the hill of Sakêsar, but it is much too salt for either irrigation or drinking purposes, while the smaller ones at Kabakki or elsewhere appear to be but little used for the former purpose.

4. The only description of canals as yet attempted, and that only in the "Jach" Doab, from the Jhelum, is the inundation canal. But it seems probable that from somewhere near *Mông Resûl* (the site of the battle of Chilianwalla) the head for a canal of permanent flow might be obtained; and Captain Davies has, I believe, had it in contemplation to propose this. In the meantime, however, it is hardly possible to exaggerate the value of inundation canals to this parched tract; that they formerly existed to some extent is still traceable; and their revival under us is due, in the first instance, to Mr. Donald Macnabb, who with great benevolence and public spirit, dug a small canal a few years ago, to irrigate the station of Shahpûr, and some of the villages adjoining. But its success was but very partial, and Captain Davies is unquestionably entitled to the credit of having brought an amount of energy and intelligence to bear on the whole subject, which have already produced most remarkable and gratifying results, and have aroused a spirit of enthusiasm on the subject, on the part of the population occupying the left bank of the Jhelum, which is not likely to be extinguished. He is also of opinion that an inundation canal may be taken off from the right bank of that river, to irrigate lands even as far as Mittha Tiwanah, which would be an immense boon. And there appears to be no reason why similar canals should not be taken off from the right bank of the Chenab.

5. As water runs in these canals only from April or May to September or October, that is, during the season when the rivers are more or less in flood, their possible utility is necessarily limited; though even thus limited, they suffice, in a very short time, entirely to change the aspect of the country permeated by them. In addition however to this limitation of period, there is an amount of uncertainty necessarily attending them, consequent on the fluctuations in the rise of the rivers, from year to year, more especially in their higher portions, as well as a liability in the mouths to get filled up, or cut away from changes in the course of the

latter, which in many parts renders reliance on them very precarious, and everywhere renders the application of matured engineering skill very essential for their proper maintenance. The Shahpûr canals, especially that formed by Sâhib Khan Tiwanah, appear to have been hitherto more than usually successful and permanent, but difficulties are already beginning to be felt, and when a Deputy Commissioner succeeds, less remarkably qualified for supervising such operations than Captain Davies undoubtedly is, I feel assured that it will become as necessary here, as elsewhere, to place the management of these canals under the Irrigation Department.

6. The existence of no less than 270 mounds in the centre of the Bâr of the "Jach" Doab, indicative of the former existence of villages and towns where all is now desolation, is a very interesting and remarkable fact; and as the same state of things occurs in the Rechna and Bâri Doâbs, there can be no doubt that at a remote period, the circumstances of a large portion of the Panjâb were very different from what they are now. The fact mentioned by Captain Davies, that the remains of old wells exist, of which the masonry walls go not down nearly to the depth that is now indispensable, appears clearly to show that the water level was higher than at present, as compared with the surface; though whether this was the result of the course of the rivers being then different, of the annual rain-fall being larger, of the level of the soil having been raised by subterraneous forces or otherwise, or whether the phenomenon is the result of other causes, it would be difficult now to determine. It may be that in different parts, the present desolation has resulted from different causes, and in some places (as at Pâk Pattan) successive remains of towns have been met with, in digging for wells &c., each lying many feet below the superjacent layer, sometimes as much as 60 and 70 feet below. But whatever be the explanation, it seems certain that until an elaborate system of artificial irrigation is introduced, the productiveness of soil, and density of population, which once existed, are no longer to be looked for.

7. Captain Davies has not confined his efforts after improvement to the plain portions of his district, capable of being more or less irrigated by canals and wells, but he has given much attention also to the hill portions. The lines of communication between them and the plains, are in a very different state now, from what they were a few

years ago: gardens have been established, and rest-houses built; where fertilizing streams are available, tea culture has been tried, and pine and other hill seeds introduced and sown; while the hill sanatorium of Sakêsar, at an elevation of about 5,000 feet, has become greatly improved under his care, and the access to it greatly facilitated, so that this station has now become as great a boon to the European officers of the Shahpûr district and the Cis-Indus portion of Bannu, as Shekh Buddin is to those of the Derajât, and is likely to become yet more so. He has also conferred a great benefit on the occupants of the hill tract, and facilitated its future administration, by having maps carefully prepared on a large scale of the several hill streams, of which the monsoon waters are embanked for the supply of adjoining fields, and having all claims thereto recorded on the spot, whereby it may be hoped that a cause of unceasing contention in the past, has been effectually put an end to for the future.

8. Passing on to the financial and administrative results of the settlement, it may be remarked, that while the portion of it effected under Mr. Ouseley's orders, which was carried out on the old system of large establishments, working very deliberately, and employed exclusively on settlement work, has cost 53 *per cent.* of one year's jamma, the portion completed by Captain Davies, in which the existing district establishments were more largely employed, the work being performed by them in addition to their ordinary duties, from the Deputy Commissioner downwards, has cost but 12 *per cent.* The amount of the assessment arrived at, tells strongly in favor of the appropriateness and moderation of the last summary settlement, the new assessment being in the aggregate nearly identical with the old, showing a decrease on the latter of 3 *per cent.*; this reduction, moreover, occurs exclusively in the hilly portion, while even this small amount is more than made up by increase of income from grazing dues levied on the waste marked off as Government rakhs. Inequalities doubtless existed, which have been rectified, and the beneficial effects which may be looked for from the settlement as now revised, may be gathered from the fact that Mr. Ouseley's assessments have been collected now for a series of years with the utmost facility, and that cultivation, irrigation, and general improvement in the circumstances of the people, have taken place to a marked extent; while as regards the portion settled by

Captain Davies, the fact mentioned in the 244th para. of his report, that within two years, no less than 276 plots of land have been redeemed from mortgage, is most encouraging and hopeful; and the statement that the semi-nomad races inhabiting the Thalls (para. 201) are by their own confession inclining to more settled habits than heretofore, indicates that agriculture has become more remunerative and better appreciated than heretofore.

9. Captain Davies admits that as regards the portion of the district settled by him, he has assumed one-third of the nett proceeds only as the Government revenue, instead of one-half as prescribed by existing rules; and he assigns as a reason for this (para. 237) that throughout the tract in question, the harvests are entirely dependent on the rain-fall. It certainly admits of question, whether this argument applies to the Sailâb lands near the river, or to any portion where wells for irrigation are really effective. But the revenue rates fixed by him on the several classes of soil and cultivation appear, considering the circumstances of that part of the Shahpûr district, to be fair and reasonable, as compared with the assessments of other tracts; and seeing how liable to error are all the detailed methods of ascertaining nett proceeds, this is perhaps the safest criterion by which to judge. Under any circumstances, there can be no doubt that in so remote and little favored a tract, it is far wiser to keep our assessments very low, than to fix them at an amount which might prove in the least degree oppressive.

10. Another special cause assigned by him (see para. 221) for fixing the assessment of lands in the Salt Range at a low amount, with reference to their great fertility, is that the population of those parts (26,607 souls to 46,000 culturable acres) is excessive; a ground for reduction which the Commissioner does not consider to be valid. It is certain that in theory the argument cannot hold good. But in a country where equal division of ancestral property amongst the heirs is the rule, the only really salutary mode in which the evil of excessive sub-division can be checked, appears to be by encouraging the more prosperous to purchase out their poorer brethren, and thus to enable the latter to seek employment in other parts, or in other occupations; and this is more likely to take place if a good margin of profit be left for accumulation by the more provident, than if all be restricted to a bare sufficiency for subsistence. It would I think be a wise policy on the part of Government to adopt every available measure that may appear calculated to lead the surplus agricultural population to resort to

other employments ; and as one means toward that end, I think that light assessments in highly peopled tracts are by no means inappropriate.

11. The further cause assigned by Captain Davies, however, (in his 222nd para.)* for light assessments, viz. the progressive tendency towards a rise in prices, should lead to an opposite conclusion ;—as the money value of agricultural produce, and with it the cultivator's power of paying an enhanced revenue, must thus increase in like manner with the prices of other commodities. That this general rise of prices, or what is the same thing, a general fall in the value of money, is rapidly taking place, there can be no doubt ;—not as Captain Davies supposes owing to large influx of silver, which is the effect, not the cause, of this rise, but owing to the other causes mentioned by him—the extension of trade, opening out of improved means of communication, increase and progress of large engineering works and other undertakings, and general advance in the productive powers of the country. That this fall in the value of money will continue to increase owing to these causes, if peace and prosperity be maintained, until its value with relation to labor becomes more on a par with the state of things existing in England, there can be no reasonable doubt. But so far from this being a ground for lowering assessments, it is the argument widely urged against permanently fixing assessments in cash, on the ground that two or three generations hence, the existing assessments will probably not represent more than a fraction of their present value.

12. The method of assessing the Bâr lands of villages for the period of settlement according to the number of cattle possessed by them at the time of settlement, the area to be included therein having been previously determined on the same ground, appears without doubt to be the correct one. This method was first suggested, it would seem, by Mr. Edward Thornton, when Commissioner. It is essentially just, and appears in practice to operate with much better effect, than the system still prevailing in some other parts, of levying a grazing tax on these lands or on the villagers, the aggregate amount of which fluctuates with the number of cattle possessed by them or grazed on their lands. Greater contentment has been secured by this arrangement ; as there is no further interference with the villagers, who can allow the cattle of out-siders to graze on their lands if they think fit, appropriating the grazing dues paid by them ; and where

* Since this minute was written, Captain Davies has explained that he did not intend to convey the meaning that high prices were a reason for low assessments ; but only to signify that they were one circumstance among many to be taken into consideration in fixing the assessment.

any portions of the lands in question are culturable, the inclination to bring such portions under the plough is becoming stronger.

13. The mode in which the claims, in respect to waste lands of Government, acting on behalf of the public, have been asserted and defined in this settlement, is very satisfactory. As ordered by the Board of Administration, with the approval of the Supreme Government, in the 9th para. of the enclosure of their Circular No. 15 of 1st March 1852,—after making a most liberal allowance for the grazing and other requirements of each village, all waste land in excess of this has been marked off as Government preserves or rakh lands, and these now amount in the Shahpûr district, to 4,99,784 acres, from which an annual grazing income of Rs. 23,000 or upwards is obtained.* In the Thall in particular, the task of demarcation appears to have proved a somewhat difficult and delicate one; and both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies appear to have executed it with much judgment. The wooded slopes and pastures of the Salt Range, over portions of which cattle from all adjoining villages graze, have also been now for the first time declared to be Government preserves; thus following the example set by Mr. Arthur Brandreth in the adjoining district of Jhelum. Existing grazing rights have been maintained, and there can, I think, be no doubt that the measure will prove highly advantageous in all ways.

14. Wherever this work of demarcating of Government preserves remains in other districts unaccomplished, the earliest opportunity should without doubt be taken advantage of for carrying it out, and it is much to be regretted that the matter has not been kept in view everywhere from the first. This remark applies more especially to those hill tracts in which the claims of Government have not been asserted, save as regards standing timber. Thus, in Kângra, where the demarcation of village boundaries was effected on a different principle from that adopted in Kamâon, and in the adjoining portions of territory under the management of the Deputy Commissioner of Simla and Superintendent Hill States, no reservation has been made on account of Government; but the entire area of forest and waste has been parcelled out amongst the adjoining villages. Much of the

* I agree with the Financial Commissioner and other officers in thinking it advisable that the grazing dues be farmed out to selected parties, for periods exceeding a year, in preference to putting them up annually to auction.

demarcation of those tracts was probably completed before the issue of the Board's Circular above alluded to, while that Circular was not at the time considered to apply to the Trans Sutlej Division, which had been under British Administration three years previous to the formation of the Board ; but it may in my opinion still be considered an open question, whether this matter should not be reconsidered on the next revision of settlement in that district.

15. It is however very essential to bear in mind that the circumstances of waste and forest lands in most hill tracts, differ essentially from those of Government waste lands in the Bâr. In the latter, unless perhaps in exceptional cases, where a preferential claim to lease or purchase may be allowed, the people of the adjoining villages cannot be considered as having any claim ; as, although their cattle, in common with those of others, may have grazed on them, their right to do so has been of the most undefined character, being shared, in fact, with the public at large. In the hills, however, the case is very different ; for there, the use for grazing purposes of a large portion at least of the waste lands in question, is an absolute necessity to the adjoining villages ; and it will usually, I believe, be found that recognized portions of them have always been allotted to and made use of by certain adjoining villages, either separately or in common, so that if Government were to consider itself at liberty to dispose of these at discretion, there can be no doubt that great hardship and wrong might be inflicted.

16. In respect to such lands therefore, Government must be regarded merely as trustee, primarily on behalf of the adjoining villages, and generally on behalf of the public, only after the wants or vested interests of the former have been fully provided for. In one case, which occurred some years ago, during my incumbency of the post of Financial Commissioner, a plot of Government waste on the Salt Range was assigned as a grant to a retired native officer, without, I believe, due consideration having been given to the above view of the matter. This was in my opinion a mistake, and accordingly, the case in question should not be allowed to form a precedent for the future.

17. Great pains appear to have been taken throughout these settlement operations, to allow the distribution of the demand, adjustment of shares, and all internal details connected with the village record, to be

determined, as far as possible, by the people themselves, so that existing recognized usages should be nowhere interfered with; and so far as this principle may have been really carried out, the record cannot but prove satisfactory. It appears to be admitted, on all hands, that the prevailing and almost universal tenure, in this district, is the Bhayachâra; and where attempts have been made to establish claims to ancestral shares, they have been usually rejected. It is remarkable with what tenacity ancestral claims have been urged, and how freely they have been conceded in most parts of the Panjâb, notwithstanding vicissitudes which have vastly altered the state of actual holdings, from that of ancestral title. But, nevertheless, the tendency of all village systems must be more or less to lead to the formation of coparcenaries, in which actual possession alone determines the share. And from the unanimity which exists upon the point, it may be presumed that in Shahpûr, this state of things has undoubtedly been arrived at. This being the case, I think it must be conceded, that the share of waste likewise has been rightly adjudged in the ratio of actual holding.

18. The precaution adopted throughout, from Mr. Ouseley's time, of giving each individual concerned an extract from the record relating to him, is the only one which can ensure a cognizance on the part of every one, of what has been determined in respect to him, and this practice, added to the most important and essential one of having measurements made by Patwâries, who are resident and responsible, instead of by Amîns, who are for the most part strangers, afford the best guarantees that the record is a *bonâ fide* one, and in a great measure to be relied on. It is greatly to the credit of Mr. Ouseley and his successor, that in this comparatively secluded quarter, the Patwâries have been so efficiently trained as they appear to have been, and the care taken by Captain Davies to have their Shajrahs prepared on a scale which bears a fixed and convenient ratio to that of the survey village maps, is worthy of commendation. The plan first introduced by Mr. Arthur Brandreth, and adopted by Captain Davies, of having these Shajrahs prepared in separate sheets, appears also to be deserving of the attention of officers elsewhere.

19. The fact, incidentally mentioned (para. 276 of Report) that the Awâns, who are believed to be of purely Mahomedan descent, have an

especially strong objection to landed property being inherited through females, appears somewhat remarkable, as the sentiment is usually supposed to emanate from the tenets of Hindû law alone. But I have observed the same amongst the pure Pathâns of the Jalandhar Doâb; and it seems probable, that in all countries which have in time past been continuously under Hindû rule, or the rule of Mahomedans sprung from Hindûs, who invariably cling to their ancestral usages, this feeling is prevalent. Another fact of a somewhat analogous character is mentioned in para. 300, which is in like manner remarkable, viz. that the usage of "Chûnda vand," by which the off-spring of each wife separately inherits an equal share of the ancestral property with the offspring of each other wife, which usage is commonly considered to appertain exclusively to a section of Hindûs and Sikhs only, is exceptionally prevalent amongst Sayads, Qurêshies, and Pathâns, the last two of whom at least may be presumed to be of purely Mahomedan descent.

20. I do not think it necessary, in this place, to dwell at length on the much vexed question of hereditary tenants. But the remarks of Mr. Ouseley on this point (para. 253) are valuable, and the interests of all appear to have been carefully considered, and (*vide* para. 361) for the most part suitably provided for. That those who have broken up wastes, or who from ancient incumbency or special causes have attained a prominent and favored position, are everywhere regarded as having special claims to consideration; and that to regard all cultivators as on precisely the same footing, would be unjust, there can be no doubt whatever; but what form their special privileges should take, in accordance with the feelings and usages of the people, is a point on which great differences of opinion exist; and as this matter is being separately considered, in communication with the Supreme Government, further remark would be out of place here.

21. The person designated throughout the Rawalpindi division "Mâlik Maqbûzah," or proprietor of his own holding, a designation first introduced, it is believed, by Mr. Edward Thornton, when Commissioner, must be regarded as in fact the highest and most privileged class of hereditary tenant; and although, as a consequence of the obliteration of previously established distinctions, resulting from the levelling system followed by Sikh Governors, the claim to this designation has probably been somewhat too readily conceded by Mr. Ouseley; the creation of this special

class will probably prove beneficial, especially where their precise position and rights have been sufficiently defined, which has not perhaps been everywhere the case. I am much opposed myself to all arbitrary alterations of existing usage or status, however expedient those alterations may appear to us; and there is, I think, much force made by the Commissioner in paras. 27 and 28 of his letter, and by Financial Commissioner, in the latter part of para. 12 of his memorandum. Much of Mr. Ouseley's work was performed at a time when the parties concerned had by no means attained to a full cognizance of their rights or of their value, and it is quite possible that a reconsideration of some portions of his conclusions may hereafter become necessary.

22. Before quitting the subject of the record, it may be well briefly to allude to the usage which prevails on the Jhelum, of villages holding lands on both banks, a usage which appears to be peculiar to this river (para. 312). Captain Davies has rendered good service in elucidating this matter, though, as remarked by the Commissioner (para. 32 of his letter), difficulties in regard to boundary may still arise, where a village does not possess lands on both sides; and it seems expedient that the precautions suggested by him be adopted, on receipt of plans of the river from Surveyor General's office. Captain Davies has also adopted an excellent arrangement, in introducing another clause into the record, defining the principles on which claims to lands recovered from the river shall be adjudicated in each village, this being frequently a subject of endless contention, if not thus provided for beforehand. The 10 *per cent.* rule, I may add, referred to in his 310th para., may be a convenient one in a large number of cases, as obviating the necessity for enquiry in every case, however trifling; but it has very rightly been ignored in cases where its application would be productive of obvious hardship. The above per-centage appears a somewhat high one to adopt, and it might perhaps be advantageous to substitute 5 *per cent.* for it.

23. Although the Commissioner considers that the reduction of Lambardârs effected by Captain Davies was quite proper, yet I incline to the opinion of the Financial Commissioner (para. 14 of his memorandum) that if serious dissatisfaction has resulted, even amongst a small section, the measure is to be regretted. It would, I concur with him in thinking, have been better to allow any

Village administration.
Lambardârs. Inâms.

excess in their number to be gradually absorbed, especially as the creation of a principal Lambardâr or Head-man, has very greatly diminished, if it have not entirely removed, the evils formerly resulting from a multiplicity of Lambardârs. I cannot entirely concur with the Financial Commissioner in the opinion which he appears to entertain, that the importance of these village functionaries has materially diminished since the time of the Sikhs ; for, although their influence is no longer required for the purpose of rack-renting, yet their services can be rendered most valuable, if duly made use of, in respect to everything which relates to the social interests of the people, and their relations with the Government. The position which the post affords them is still so much valued that its possession is eagerly competed for, and it is I think of importance that every section of the village community which has, or believes it has, interests apart from the rest, should be separately represented ; as a Lambardâr thrust upon those who do not desire him can do but little good, and may do harm.

24. The creation of a principal representative in each village, selected out of the Lambardârs already existing, who shall be ordinarily the channel of communication with Government, and to whom the other Lambardârs shall be subordinate, a superior allowance or inâm being granted him, to meet the requirements of his position, is, in my opinion, one of the most important measures connected with the internal administration, which has yet been introduced into this province. And I am glad to observe that Colonel Lake, though objecting to some of the details, expresses, in the 15th para. of his memorandum, approval of the measure generally. It was first proposed by Mr. Arthur Brandreth, and has been carried out with great energy and success in the Amritsar Division, by Mr. Edward Prinsep and his subordinates engaged in the settlements. The state of comparative uselessness, to which the office of Lambardâr had been reduced, by the number of independent functionaries existing in the great majority of villages, has thus been effectually remedied ; all are now under local control ; while a spirit of emulation has been excited amongst them, and the intercourse of Government authorities with the people greatly facilitated and simplified.

25. In the Amritsar Division, the village quorum consisting of the Lambardârs and their head, has become the lowest member of an ascending series of administrative bodies, culminating in the principal panchâyat

of the district, all receiving some remuneration, in the shape of inâms or allowances, and all being entrusted with functions, however inconsiderable, sufficient to secure them influence and respect amongst their respective communities. The eagerness resulting from this organization, to initiate and promote projects for the amelioration of the people, and co-operation with the Government officers, has been there most remarkable, especially in Syâlkôt; and I trust that efforts, more or less successful, are being made to introduce arrangements more or less analogous elsewhere. I do not gather, from the present report, that this remark applies to Shahpûr, but the foundation has been laid, and the matter will not, I trust, be lost sight of here or elsewhere. Very much must necessarily depend upon the judgment with which such arrangements are carried out in each locality, but I believe them to contain the germ of the only system of partial self government which is at present practicable in this province, and to be eminently congenial to the instincts of the people in most parts of it.

26. Entertaining these views, I very greatly regret the extent to zamîndâri and other inâms have been heretofore resumed or allowed to lapse; and, believing as I do, that at a very small sacrifice, they afford us a great increase of power, I regard with great satisfaction efforts such as Captain Davies has made, appropriately to restore them, or to create substitutes for them. The Financial Commissioner, in the 15th para. of his memorandum, objects to the arrangement by which the 5 per cent. levied from inferior proprietors is made over to the head Lambardâr, as being illegal. That cess, if not thus appropriated, would have formed a fund to be distributed among the proprietary body generally. Granting, therefore, that Government has a right to call upon proprietors to pay the cost of such administrative arrangements as it may deem necessary for the village, the cost may as well be taken from this as from any other portion of the general receipts; so that the measure is not, in my opinion, chargeable with illegality; while it has this advantage, that being a cess newly introduced, its loss is not felt by the community, or the popularity of the institution of head Lambardâr jeopardized, to such an extent as might have been the case if a fresh demand had been made on the pre-existing assets of the village.

27. It should be borne in mind at the same time, that as the inâm of the head Lambardâr, in whatever mode realized, forms a deduction

from the nett assets, of which Government claims one half as revenue, the community in reality pay but one half of the charge, Government bearing the other half. But seeing that there is no necessary connexion between the claims of the head Lambardâr, and the number of inferior proprietors who may happen to exist in the village, I agree with the Financial Commissioner in thinking, that the arrangement made in this matter at the outset, should not be continued as a permanent one; but that in future revisions of settlement, when the new office will have become familiar, whatever extra allowance the head Lambardâr receives, shall be regarded simply as a deduction from the assets of the village, in common with the 5 *per cent.* theretofore fixed for the Lambardârs generally.

28. The tabular statements annexed to the report, contain many details of interest. No. II shows how largely wheat is cultivated, in excess of barley and all other cereals; a fact which I should have hardly expected in a district so circumstanced. The proportional area allotted to turnips is also unusually large, and the same may be said in regard to sweet melons, to which the sandy tracts across the Jhelum are especially suited. The area covered with poppy is entered as 708 acres only; while in the 6th para. of the Commissioner's letter it is stated to be 3,000 acres; which, seeing how large a quantity of opium is exported from this district, seems the more likely. The price realized being about Rs. 10 per seer (not per maund as entered in the above para. of Commissioner's letter), it cannot be doubted that this article contributes largely to the increasing wealth and prosperity of the district; and the fact remarked upon by Financial Commissioner, in para. 8 of his memorandum, that the monopoly of sale appears not to tell so injuriously as in other districts in which the same system of yearly farm prevails, is no doubt attributable to the circumstance, which is remarkable in itself, that whereas the only product of the plant in the latter is the poppy-head, an article so bulky as to preclude extensive export, the poppy in Shahpûr yields opium of excellent quality, and in general demand, so that if the monopolist should attempt to be oppressive, the grower would export his produce, instead of selling it on the spot.

29. In statement No. III, which gives the population of the district, there appear to be some errors both in the numerical entries,

and in the headings of the columns. Thus, as respects the former, the aggregate number of adult Mahomedan males appears to be 45,013, and not 54,013, while, as respects the latter, the ratios given are not those of men to women, but of women to men.

The following abstract appears to show the results given in this statement:—

Statistics of Sexes in the Shahpûr District.

Adult Population.

SEXES.	MAHOMEDAN.				HINDU.			
	<i>Agricultural.</i>		<i>Non-Agricultural.</i>		<i>Agricultural.</i>		<i>Non-Agricultural.</i>	
	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.
Males,	45,013.	100	39,134	100	2,064	100	17,240	100
Females,	36,439	81	33,657	86	1,477	71	14,756	85

Non-Adult population.

Males (boys), ...	23,326	100	21,800	100	1,060	100	7,493	100
Females (girls), ...	25,520	89	20,369	93	859	81	7,073	94

Total Population.—Adult and Non-Adult.

Males, ...	73,639	100	61,024	100	3,124	100	24,733	100
Females, ...	61,959	84	54,026	88	2,336	74	21,820	88

Total of Mahomedans and Hindûs respectively.

	Numbers.		Ratios.	Numbers.		Ratios.
Males, ...	1,34,663		100	27,857		100
Females, ...	1,15,985		86	24,165		86½

Total of all classes.

	Numbers.		Ratios.
Males, ...	1,62,520		100
Females, ...	1,40,150		86

and the remarkable fact is elicited from it, that in every case the ratio of females to males is greatest in the non-agricultural classes, whether adult or juvenile, Mahomedan or Hindû. The state of indigenous education amongst this population of 3,02,670 persons, as shown in statement No. IV, is not very encouraging; as there are but 233 schools, of which no less than 211 are held in mosques or dharmasâlas, and but 4,016 pupils, of whom 3,320 learn only Arabic, which, in their cases can mean little or nothing more than committing the Qurân to memory.

30. Statements Nos. VI and VII show the area of the district and its distribution, from which it appears, as before remarked, that less than one-fifth of the culturable land only is under the plough, nearly one half of which is irrigated. That each proprietor possesses, on the average, less than 10 acres, each cultivator $4\frac{1}{2}$, the latter class occupying less than one-third of the cultivated land, and about one-fifth of their number having been declared hereditary. The average extent of land cultivated by one plough appears to be about $8\frac{1}{2}$ acres, so that one plough of land in the average, nearly suffices for two cultivators. Statements Nos. VIII and IX show the extent of jagîr and inâfi lands, aggregating something less than half a lakh of rupees in yearly income, of which lands, yielding about 30,000 rupees per annum, have been released in perpetuity. It is remarkable that in a district of which Hindûs form but one-fifth of the population, the endowments granted to Hindû institutions are 9 times the value of those to Mahomedan ones. The maps which accompany this report are truly admirable, and although they do not contain all the copious statistical details shown in the elaborate maps which accompany Mr. Prinsep's Syâlkôt Settlement Report, there is no other report save that one, which has been so excellently illustrated, as this of Shahpûr has been by Captain Davies.

31. I entirely concur in the very high encomiums passed on Mr.

Gore Ouseley, in respect to his portion of the settlement of this district. That gentleman possessed

Concluding Remarks. in an eminent degree, the very valuable characteristic of warm sympathy for the people, whose interests were entrusted to him, an attribute more keenly appreciated by orientals when they discover it in their foreign rulers, than any other; and as he added to this, great intelligence, diligence, and an aptitude for communicating with them, it can well be understood how his memory is regarded with affection and respect by all

classes ; while the experience of several years which have elapsed since he left this province, attests the substantial character of the work performed by him. The work which he commenced, has been completed by Captain Davies, as Colonel Lake remarks, in a masterly manner. The mode, too, in which he has combined in his report, into a more or less homogeneous whole, the details of settlements effected by different hands, under very different circumstances, and at intervals of many years, is highly creditable to him, paying, at the same time, as he does, a generous and graceful tribute to the merits of his predecessor, and acknowledging the aid he has derived from him.

32. I request, accordingly, that the acknowledgments of this Government may be conveyed to both these officers ; as well as to Extra Assistant Moti Lâl ; and to Bakhtâwar Lâl, Tehsildar, and Harbans Lâl, Nâib Tehsildar ; who have taken so prominent and effective a part in carrying this settlement to completion, and have been especially commended by them. Râm Sahâi and Mîr Ghulâm Husain should also be borne in mind, when suitable opportunities occur for evincing the sense entertained of their services. That the settlement now completed will, in a few years, with the extension of canals, wells, and cultivation, prove very light, I have no doubt ; but in a tract so circumstanced this is very desirable ; and as I have no doubt as to the care and judgment with which the assessment has been made, I sanction the continuance of the whole, without revision, until the official year 1880-81, which will, I think, under existing circumstances suffice. The Commissioner suggests the Sambat year 1930, which corresponds with 1873 ; but in such documents, the official year should invariably be employed.

(Signed) D. F. McLEOD.

Lieut. Governor Punjab.

27th August 1867.